

# The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Thursday, 18 March, 2004

## Four political objectives

- \* Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- \* National reconsolidation
- \* Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- \* Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

## Four economic objectives

- \* Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- \* Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- \* Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- \* The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

## Four social objectives

- \* Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- \* Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- \* Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- \* Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation



## The noble traditions of the Tatmadaw

Our Tatmadaw has proved capable of adequately dealing with any crisis due to its good discipline, loyalty, unity, capability, willingness to make sacrifices, willingness to give priority to national interests over individual interests, high morale, courage in the face of difficulties, endurance and perseverance. As these points constituted the noble traditions of the Tatmadaw, it is incumbent on all of us to maintain these characteristics forever.

Senior General Than Shwe

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services

(From address at the parade of 58th Anniversary Armed Forces Day)

## Senior General Than Shwe sends congratulations to President of Russian Federation

YANGON, 17 March — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Vladimir V Putin, on his re-election as the President of the Russian Federation.—MNA

## Senior General Than Shwe sends felicitations to President of Ireland

YANGON, 17 March — Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Dr Mary McAleese, President of Ireland, on the occasion of the National Day of Ireland, which falls on 17 March 2004.—MNA

59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Armed Forces Day  
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#### Circulation

22,737

## Prime Minister addresses meeting on Electronic Transactions Law (draft)

YANGON, 17 March — The meeting on Electronic Transactions Law (draft) took place at the MICT Park in Hline Township here yesterday afternoon, with an address by Chairman of Myanmar Computer Science Development Council Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt.

Also present on the occasion were Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Soe Win, Chairman of e-National Task Force Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs Brig-Gen Thein Zaw, Chief Jus-

tice U Aung Toe, Attorney-General U Aye Maung, deputy ministers, the deputy attorney-general, senior military officers, members of e-National Task Force, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Office, officials and guests.

At the meeting, the

chairman of the e-National Task Force reported on progress in drawing the Electronic Transactions Law (draft) in cooperation with ministries; and the attorney-general, on prescriptions of the law (draft). Next, the Chief Justice, Deputy Attorney-General

Dr Tun Shin and those present made discussions on the law (draft).

The Prime Minister gave instructions to the officials. Member of the e-National Task Force U Thein Oo gave an account of Myanmar character code (See page 11)



Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt addresses meeting on Electronic Transactions Law (draft). — MNA

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

## PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 18 March, 2004

### Strive for speedy realization of educational goal

The Government of the Union of Myanmar is making every endeavour for the emergence of a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democracy by laying down the seven-point future policy programme and by fulfilling absolute necessities for the future of the State.

Rule of law and community peace are the sine qua non for the realization of the future policy programme. Moreover, harmonious development in all economic sectors and human resource development in the education sector are also necessary. This being the case, the government is taking systematic measures to meet these three most fundamental requirements.

The meeting (1/2004) of the Myanmar Education Committee was held at the hall of the Universities Central Council on 16 March in Yangon and Chairman of MEC Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt delivered an address. In his address, the Prime Minister said that it was necessary for all those responsible in the education sector to realize that human resource development was very important for the future of the State and that the government was opening new schools, colleges and at the same time upgrading the existing ones to open up opportunities for the youths to be able to pursue their education easily and to develop human resources. The purpose of doing so is to raise the educational standard of the entire nation.

A modern and developed nation will be realized only if the education sector improves qualitatively as well as quantitatively.

As universities, colleges and basic education schools are located in various States and Divisions, it is necessary for responsible personnel at all levels to coordinate and cooperate zealously to realize the educational goal of the State.

Hence, while the Government is making earnest efforts for promoting the educational standard of the nation, the officials and staff of the education sector are incumbent to make concerted efforts for reaching the educational goal speedily.

Hailing the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day:



### Book Fair

Sarpay Beikman

# 378,384 Upper Bo Aung Kyaw Street, Yangon  
(former PPE head office)  
19 to 28 March 2004 (from 9 am to 5 pm)



**CERTIFICATES PRESENTED:** Basic education primary level completion certificates were given away to the students at the No 10 BEPS, Bahan Township, recently. Headmistress Daw Sein Myaing presents a certificate to a student. — (H)

### 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

#### Armed Forces Day Objectives

- To strive hand in hand with the people for successful realization of the State's seven-point policy programme
- To crush internal and external destructive elements hindering the stability and progress of the State through people's militia strategy
- To implement border area development tasks and the five rural development tasks hand in hand with the entire people
- To build up a strong and efficient Tatmadaw to uphold 'Our Three Main National Causes'

### People's Desire

- \* Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- \* Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- \* Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- \* Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

### Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt sends message of congratulations to Prime Minister of Russian Federation

YANGON, 17 March — General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Mikhail Fradkov, on his appointment as Prime Minister of the Russian Federation. — MNA

### Prime Minister General Khin Nyunt sends felicitations to Prime Minister of Ireland

YANGON, 17 March — General Khin Nyunt, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Bertie Ahern, Prime Minister of Ireland, on the occasion of the National Day of Ireland, which falls on 17 March 2004. — MNA

### Minister U Win Aung sends congratulations to Minister for Foreign Affairs of Russian Federation

YANGON, 17 March — U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of congratulations to His Excellency Mr Sergei V Lavrov, on his appointment as Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. — MNA

### Minister U Win Aung sends felicitations to Ireland

YANGON, 17 March — U Win Aung, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Brian Cowen, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland, on the occasion of the National Day of Ireland, which falls on 17 March 2004. — MNA

### Capital presented to four Yangon District MCWAs

YANGON, 17 March — Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for Maternal and Child Welfare Association presented capital to township MCWAs at the office of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council this afternoon, attended by Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe and wife patron of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for MCWA Daw Khin Thet Htay.

First, Daw Khin Thet Htay made a speech.

President of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for MCWA Head of Divisional Health Department Dr Hla Myint explained tasks to be carried out with the use of capital. Later, Daw Khin Thet Htay presented K 100,000 each for a district to officials. — MNA



**The opening ceremony of industry run by bio-gas in Kokke village in progress.** — (H)

### Industry run by bio-gas opened

YANGON, 17 March — Under the joint sponsorship of Forest Department of Myanmar and the Energy and Resources Institute of India in line with the BIMST-EC energy sector development programme, the small and medium size pilot industry run by bio-gas was opened with ceremony at Kokke village in Myingyan District on 3 March morning.

Myingyan District Peace and Development Council Chairman Lt-Col Win Myint, Director-General of Energy Planning Department U Soe Myint, Mr Sunil Dhingra of TERI, Director of Forest Department U Thiri Tin, local authorities, personnel of social organizations and local people were present at the opening ceremony. (H)



**The Wushu team seen before departure for China.** (H)

### Wushu team leaves for China

YANGON, 17 March — The Wushu team led by Myanmar Wushu Federation Secretary U Tun Myint left here by air for People's Republic of China today for undergoing training in order to participate in the International Wushu Events. The team comprises MWF Joint Secretary U Tint Naing and athletes Myo Min Soe, Soe Win Thein and Honey Ko Ko. — (H)

### Gita Nandawun on 19, 20, 21 March

YANGON, 17 March — The Gita Nandawun music concert will be held on 19, 20 and 21 March 2004 at the national Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street here. The concert will start at 7 pm. Admission fees are K 500, K 1,000, K 2,000, K 3,000 and K 5,000. Gitalulin Maung Ko Ko, famous pianists and gold medalists in piano contests will present their piano performance at the concert. Moreover, violin Ko Tin Ngwe's violin orchestra will give performance. And modern musical instruments and ancient musical instruments of Mon and Myanmar will also be played to the accompaniment of songs by celebrated vocalists and young singers who won gold medals in the performing arts competitions. Furthermore, Moe Di, Ayaing and Yan Paing Soe will present hearty laughs. — MNA

### Cash donation ceremony 19 March

YANGON, 17 March — Hailing the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the second cash donation ceremony will be held at the office of Defence Services Museum and Historical Research Institute on Shwedagon Pagoda Road at 2 pm on 19 March. Those wishing to donate cash may contact the Leading Committee for Observance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, Tel: 031-25178 and 0980-32968. — MNA



# Honduras says it's pulling Iraq troops

TEGUCIGALPA, 17 March—Honduras, following the lead of Spain, will withdraw its 370 troops from a Spanish-led humanitarian and peacekeeping brigade in Iraq by the end of June, Defence Secretary Federico Breve said Tuesday.

The decision marked an about-face from a day earlier when President Ricardo Maduro said the forces would stay.

Tuesday's announcement "coincides with the decision of the prime minister-elect of the Spanish government," Breve said.

Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, the socialist candidate who won Spain's elections Sunday, has called the Iraq invasion an error, and said he would recall Spanish troops from Iraq by June 30 unless the United Nations assumes control of

multinational military operations there.

There was mounting criticism of outgoing Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar for being too closely allied to the United States and making Spain a terrorist target.

Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua all have sent soldiers to the Spanish-led Plus Ultra Brigade to do humanitarian and peace-keeping work.

Salvadoran Defence Secretary Gen. Juan Martinez said Tuesday that the country would keep its troops in Iraq

no matter what.

"We have to follow through with what our government decided" contrary.

Honduras sent its first contingent of 370 soldiers to Iraq in August, and replaced it with a second group of the same size last month. The country had said from the beginning it would only commit its troops for a year.

El Salvador sent its first group of 360 soldiers to help the Ultra Plus Brigade last August. A replacement group of 380 soldiers arrived

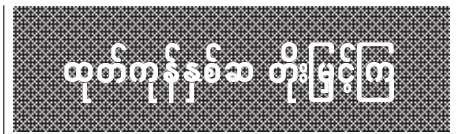
last month, and is scheduled to stay until August of this year.

Whether additional troops are sent after that may depend on the outcome of Sunday's presidential elections, disputed by Tony Saca, of the conservative ruling Nationalist Republican Alliance, and Schafik Handal, of the leftist Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front.

Current Salvadoran President Francisco Flores has stressed that the help it sent to Iraq is in thanks for the international community's backing of 1992 peace accords that ended El Salvador's 12-year civil war.

Nicaragua sent about 115 soldiers, mostly sappers and medical personnel, last September to join the brigade. Those troops have since returned, and the government announced last month that it could not afford to send a second contingent.

Internet



## Four Americans, two Europeans killed in separate incidents in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 17 March—Guerillas killed four Americans and two Europeans in different parts of Iraq, as a top US official said he's confident that others will fill any void left if Spain withdraws its forces from the country.

Spain's Prime Minister-elect Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero has vowed to bring home his country's 1,300 troops no later than June 30 unless the United Nations assumes control of the multinational force there.

Zapatero's Socialist party swept to victory in elections Sunday after more than 200 people were killed by bombs that exploded on four Madrid commuter trains last Thursday.

The vote was seen as a repudiation of outgoing Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar's support for the US invasion of Iraq. In Iraq, two Europeans — thought to be one German and one Dutch national — were killed along with three Iraqis when their car came under fire near the southern Iraqi city of Karbala on Tuesday.

Unknown assailants attacked the car of the five men in Jorf al-Sakhr, north of Karbala, 110 kilometres (65 miles) from the Iraqi capital, said a police spokesman in the Shiite holy city.

On Monday night, four American aid workers with the Southern Baptist International Mission Board were killed and another wounded in a drive-by shooting in the northern city of Mosul, the US military and the board said.

An Iraqi woman working as a translator for the US army was killed in the same city Tuesday, police and the military said. —Internet



Iraqi police investigate the scene where an Iraqi woman translator working for the US military was shot dead and her father badly wounded in an attack in the northern city of Mosul on 16 March, 2004. Three Americans — in Iraq — were killed in Mosul the previous night, according to a report on the Web site.—INTERNET

## Poverty reduction tops Asian parliamentarians meet agenda

MANILA, 17 March — Asian parliamentarians and UN representatives met here Monday in a two-day gathering to focus on poverty reduction in the Asian region.

Representatives and leaders from across the region discussed their experience in addressing poverty through key legislation in order to move forward the Millennium Development Goals at the meeting organized by the Asian Parliamentary Policy Analysis Network in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme.

It is stated in the Millennium Development Goals that by year 2015, all 189 UN members have pledged to address the challenges among least developed nations which include eradication of poverty and hunger, a universal primary education, gender equality and women empowerment and reduction of child mortality.

These goals are used by countries as benchmarks to wipe out poverty and ensure

human development by 2015.

Deborah Landey, UN Resident Representative to the parliamentary conference also emphasized the importance of Parliament in good governance.

"Parliaments are not just an effective check on the executive branch of the government but are the best way to ensure that all citizens — including the poor and the excluded — have their voices heard and their needs addressed," she said.

Landey stressed that the United Nations is working hard in partnership to ensure that government institutions from legislatures to local authorities are "transparent and accountable and have the capacity to carry out their critical work".

MNA/Xinhua

## Castro calls on S American troops to quit Iraq

HAVANA, 17 March—Cuban President Fidel Castro says 1,000 Latin American troops are "cannon fodder" in Iraq and calls for them to withdraw along with the Spanish unit they are serving in.

Castro, a fierce critic of the US-led occupation of Iraq, applauded Spanish Prime Minister-elect Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero for his decision to withdraw Spain's contingent of 1,300 troops by the June 30.

In a message published on Tuesday by the ruling Communist Party daily *Granma*, Castro said "more than 1,000 young men from small and impoverished Latin American countries were sent to Iraq as cannon fodder under the command of the Spanish Legion. The death of any of those youths is thus the responsibility of the Spanish state," he said. "The Latin American people have the right to expect the immediate return of those young men."

There are 380 Salvadoran, 370 Honduran and 300 Dominican soldiers in Iraq as part of the Spanish-led Plus Ultra Brigade.

The three Latin American countries said they intended to keep their contingents in Iraq even if the Spaniards leave.

The Dominican Republic government said its men would stay for the time being in Iraq, while El Salvador and Honduras said their troops would remain at least until the mandate given by their Congress runs out in August.

Nicaragua had 115 troops in Iraq until February, when they were pulled out as part of a normal rotation. Nicaragua says it cannot afford to replace them.

Zapatero, who defeated pro-US Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar in an election on Sunday after train bombings in Madrid, strongly criticized the "disastrous" US-led war in Iraq and said Spain's 1,300 troops should come home at the end of June unless the United Nations takes over operations in postwar Iraq.

Castro welcomed the Socialist victory in Spain and condemned the attacks that killed 201 people, lamenting that the Spanish people had paid the price of involvement in an unjustified war in Iraq.

Internet



A boy pulls a cow past an Iraqi tank destroyed almost a year ago by air strikes, in a rural area outside Baghdad, on 16 March, 2004. —INTERNET

## Dengue fever deaths reach 452 in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 17 March — The death toll of the dengue fever across Indonesia has reached 452, a senior official of the Health Ministry said here Monday.

"The number of death toll today across Indonesia is 452 people and some 5,000 sufferers are still in hospitals," Ritakusriastuti told Xinhua.

Some 90 per cent of the sufferers have recovered and returned home from hospi-

tals since mid-January when the disease began to spread in the country, she said.

Previously, spokeswoman of the ministry, Mariani Reksoprojo said that some 12 of the 30 infected provinces still had extraordinary cases. —MNA/Xinhua

## British support for Iraq war tumbles

LONDON, 17 March—British public support for the war in Iraq has dropped to 43%, from 61% last May at the end of that war, according to a poll released tonight.

British Prime Minister, Tony Blair got lower ratings in France, Germany and Russia (35, 33 and 36%, respectively).

President George Bush got 39% approval among Britons, 15% among the French and 14% among Germans.

In the United States, support for the Iraq war dropped to 60%, from 74% in May.

Germans, French and Russians all continued to support their countries' decisions to oppose the war, by 86, 88 and 88% respectively.

Most Britons, 56%, said they wanted Western Europe to be more independent of

the United States, and 50% said they thought a European Union equal in power to the United States would be good.

The poll, conducted by the Washington-based group, found that a majority of people in Germany, France and Russia shared those views.

In Germany, France and Britain, views of the United States were less positive than they had been in May at the end of the Iraq war.

In Germany and France, more people held negative than positive views of the United States.—Internet

## Poll shows three quarters of Britons fear terror attack because of Iraq

LONDON, 17 March—Three quarters of Britons believe their country is more vulnerable to terrorist attack as a result of its participation in the US-led invasion and occupation of Iraq, according to a poll reported by Sky TV.

According to the Internet poll of more than 1,500 people, only one percent of those who responded thought that the fall of Saddam Hussein had made the country less vulnerable to the risk of attack, and 22 percent thought the situation had changed neither for the better nor for the worse.

Forty-eight percent still thought the government was right to go to war in Iraq against 41 percent who thought it was wrong.

Seventy-three percent said the threat of attack would not alter the way they voted, but 20 percent said an actual attack would. Most

said they would desert Prime Minister Tony Blair Labour party for the Liberal Democrats led by Charles Kennedy, the only party to have opposed the war. Only eight percent of Labour voters said an attack would make them even more determined to vote for Blair.

YouGov, the polling organization that carried out the survey, showed the Labour party trailing badly in the polls, with 34 percent of vote intentions, compared to 39 percent for the opposition Conservative party and 20 percent for the Liberal Democrats.

Internet

## Indonesia urges for end to mines operation in protected forest areas

JAKARTA, 17 March — Indonesian Minister of Environment Nabeli Makarim said on Monday that decision to allow the 13 mines operating in protected forest areas is an accident, and he asked to stop allowing other mines operating in the areas.

However, the minister said that the contract work, which had been signed before the issuance of the government law prohibiting mines operation in the protected forest areas, cannot be aborted.

"We consider this as an accident, but after that, it must be stopped," he told reporters, promising to monitor the implementation of the licences. The Indonesian Government issued a lieu of law, ruling that 13 of the 22 mines are proposed to operate in the protected forest areas, because of the contract work had been signed before the adoption of the government law on forestry, which forbid mines operation in protected forest.

Besides, the 13 mines have already completed their exploration phase and came into

the production phase, the investors' confidence could be badly affected if the operations were stopped.

Last week, Indonesian Mines and Energy Minister Purnomo Yudiantoro asked to reopen 22 mines, which have closed due to the government law on protecting forest.

Previously, the minister has asked the House of Representatives to allow the mines resuming operation in the protected forest areas. Indonesian Coordinating Minister for Economics Dorodjatun Kuntjoro Jakti worried that the long dispute in the mines industry could hamper foreign investment in Indonesia. There were only 2 per cent of the protected forest areas destroyed by the mines activities, he said.—MNA/Xinhua



Cable cars make their way from Singapore to a southern off-shore island on 16 March, 2004 in Singapore. Thirty-three couples on Tuesday began a competition to see who could live in a moving cable car for a week, enduring stifling humidity, motion sickness and only 10 minutes to use the toilet each day. The contest was organized to mark the cable car's 30th anniversary.—INTERNET

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British soldiers patrol a road in the southern port city of Basra, Iraq, on 16 March, 2004. Three quarters of Britons believe their country is more vulnerable to guerillas attack as a result of its participation in the US-led invasion and occupation of Iraq, according to a poll.—INTERNET

## Protestors get ready for year anniversary of Iraq war

BAGHDAD, 17 March—One year ago this week, protestors took to the streets of San Francisco to show their anger about the war with Iraq.

Now, it seems that more Americans are coming over to their view about the conflict. In exclusive Eyewitness News poll, 44% of people told Survey USA that there is more of a terrorist threat now than before the war started. Only 17% said there was less of a terrorist threat, and 37% said the level was the same. Two percent said they weren't sure.

Answer, the anti-war group, is preparing for a major rally and march this Saturday to

mark the first anniversary of the invasion. The group says more people than ever are ready to speak out against the war.

"It's not gone well for the Bush administration," said Answer's Bill Hackwell. "It has not been the victory that they thought they were going to get. They have not been able to pacify the Iraqi population." For more Bay Area news and information, visit kpix.com and www.kcbs.com.—Internet

## Wu Yi urges closer trade links with EU

BEIJING, 17 March — Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Yi said here Monday that China and the European Union (EU) should strengthen dialogue at all levels to solve the existing problems in bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

Wu made the remark during her meeting with visiting EU Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy in Beijing on Monday afternoon.

Wu said China holds a positive stance on pushing forward the Doha Development Agenda of the World Trade Organization (WTO). She said China supports the multi-lateral talks to reach a win-win solution at the earliest date possible. She said China is

ready to step up dialogues and communication with the EU to make joint efforts towards the progress of the Doha Development Agenda.

Lamy said EU is willing to strengthen cooperation with China within the framework of the WTO and jointly push for substantial progress of the Doha Development Agenda. —MNA/Xinhua

## New Delhi rolling out plans for strategic oil reserves

NEW DELHI, 17 March — After rolling out plans for setting up strategic oil reserves, India is studying ways to have strategic gas reserves for 15 days to ensure uninterrupted supply once the market matures five years from now.

"With gas expected to play a bigger role in the energy sector, India is working on plans to have a strategic gas reserve," said Petroleum Secretary BK Chaturvedi.

"We are presently doing in-depth studies as were undertaken for oil strategic reserves plans. The issues of carrying cost and technology all have to be considered," Chaturvedi told Indo-Asian News Service.

"The study should be completed in two

to three months time and we would be seeking Cabinet approval," Chaturvedi said.

The idea of strategic gas reserves has been floated with India's gas consumption projected to go up from 65 million metric standard cubic metres per day to 300 million metric standard cubic metres per day by 2025. Strategic storage would be ideal for balancing the highs and lows in demand and supply.—MNA/Xinhua

## New Zealand to export 20,000 dairy cows to China

WELLINGTON, 17 March — New Zealand is expected to export more than 20,000 dairy cows to China this year, New Zealand Press Association (NZPA) reported Monday.

Two of three shipments, totalling close to 10,000 cows, have already left Timaru for China, and another shipment of about 4,000 leaves this month.

NZPA quoted dairy industry sources as estimating that more than 20,000 New Zealand cows will be shipped to China this year, markedly more than previous years.

New Zealand farmers are being offered 900 New Zealand dollars (about 575 US dollars) for two-year-old in-calf heifers, 150 New Zealand dollars more than current domestic values, although the cows have to be of high quality, NZPA said.

MNA/Xinhua



# Seventh Iraq war veteran kills himself

WASHINGTON, 17 March — A Colorado-based Army Special Forces soldier back from Iraq shot himself in the head in his front yard Sunday night, according to police — at least the seventh soldier who has committed suicide after serving there.

William Howell, 36, shot himself after following his wife around the yard with a handgun, according to the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. Howell served with the 10th Special Forces group in Iraq and returned to Fort Carson last month, according to the Army.

Another soldier who was attached to that unit in Iraq, Staff Sgt Georg-Andreas Pogany, has claimed that the 10th Special Forces Group ignored him when he sought help with mental problems there, and then charged him with cowardice instead. Pogany, 32, also says the Army is ignoring the side effects of an anti-malaria drug called Lariam he took with the Special Forces,

which has been linked to mental problems, aggression and suicides.

The El Paso County Sheriff's Department got a phone call just before 9:30 Sunday night from Howell's wife about a "physical disturbance" at their home in Monument. She said her husband had gone to get a gun. Police said the line then went dead. When they called back, Howell said there was no problem.

When police arrived, Howell was following his wife around the yard with a handgun and talking to her. "He was ordered to drop his weapon by one of the officers, but instead placed the weapon on his head and pulled the trigger," the sheriff's office said in a state-

ment. One officer fired at Howell, not realizing whom Howell was shooting at, and hit Howell in the arm. The El Paso County Coroner said Howell died from his own shot.

Howell's wife was treated for a minor head injury. A 13-year-old and two infants were in the house, unharmed.

According to the Army, six soldiers have killed themselves after returning from Iraq, not counting Howell. UPI reported that one soldier back from Iraq died last July, and another this January, at Walter Reed Army Medical Centre. A Fort Campbell soldier who had been in Iraq killed himself in January. — Internet

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## US soldier stabbed in Baghdad's "Green Zone"

BAGHDAD, 17 March — An assailant stabbed and badly wounded an American Army officer inside the Baghdad compound of Iraq's US-led administration, a US spokesman said on Monday.

Dan Senor, chief spokesman of the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA), said the officer had been stabbed on Saturday evening while walking in the "Green Zone", a sprawling, heavily guarded area on the west bank of the Tigris River.

"To my knowledge this was the first attack of its kind inside the Green Zone. We do not know at this point whether or not the attacker was Iraqi or an American," Senor said.

"The victim suffered serious stab wounds to his torso, head and neck," Senor said, adding that the officer, unconscious immediately after the attack, had been flown on Sunday to a US medical facility in Germany, where he was in stable condition. — MNA/Reuters

## US forces trade fire on Iran-Iraq border

BAGHDAD, 17 March — US forces in Iraq skirmished with what appeared to be Iranian border guards on the Iran-Iraq frontier at the weekend, a US military spokesman said on Monday, but Iran denied there was any such encounter.

Brigadier-General Mark Kimmitt, the deputy director of operations for the US military in Iraq, said soldiers from the 4th Infantry Division were patrolling along the border in the far northeast of Iraq when the exchange of fire occurred.

"(They) were in fact shot and fired upon by what were believed to be personnel wearing uniforms resembling those worn by Iranian border guards," Kimmitt told a news conference.

"The US soldiers took self-defence measures and returned fire, and soon after that broke contact.

"We are trying to ascertain what actually happened at the scene," Kimmitt said, adding that the skirmish took place at around 11:30 pm

(2030 GMT) on Sunday.

But officials in Teheran, with whom Iraq fought an eight-year war in the 1980s, denied any clash had taken place.

"I have spoken to several officials and there is no truth to this report," an Iranian Interior Ministry official told Reuters. "There was no such skirmish."

Iranian Army and Foreign Ministry officials were not immediately available for comment.

Skirmishes have occurred along the border in the year since US troops invaded Iraq to overthrow Saddam Hussein. But Sunday's incident would be the first since US authorities tightened border controls along the Iranian frontier.

Last week, the US Administration in Iraq said it was reducing to three from 10 the number of official crossing points along the nearly 1,000 miles border in an effort to clamp down on foreign fighters entering Iraq.

Iranian authorities have rejected US criticism that they are not doing enough to police their borders.

Kimmitt said US authorities were working through military and diplomatic channels to try to head off any fallout from Sunday's incident, which he tried to play down. — MNA/Reuters



A Spanish soldier (R) patrols with Iraqi paramilitary police in the Iraqi town of Diwaniya, about 200 km (120 miles) south of the capital Baghdad, on 16 March, 2004. — INTERNET

## ElBaradei says UN inspections to resume in Iran

WASHINGTON / TEHRAN, 17 March — Iran will allow the resumption of nuclear inspections later this month, ending a freeze by Teheran in protest at a tough resolution on its atomic programme, the UN's nuclear watchdog said Monday.

"I was informed by the Iranian authorities that the new date for inspectors arriving would be on March 27," International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Mohamed ElBaradei said in Washington. "Although this delay is regrettable, nonetheless the new date is still within our time schedule for conducting inspections."

Iran's decision to halt nuclear inspections had fueled US charges Teheran was try-

ing to hide parts of its extensive nuclear sector because it had a secret programme to build an atom bomb. Teheran denies this, saying its programme is solely for the peaceful generation of electricity.

ElBaradei on Sunday urged Teheran to let the IAEA return as soon as possible to dispel suspicions it was trying to hide something.

Iran said it had taken the step on Friday to show dis-

pleasure at the drafting of an IAEA resolution criticizing it for failing to report sensitive research and equipment which could be used to make atomic bomb material.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting with Senator Dick Lugar (R), head of the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, ElBaradei said Teheran had clearly realized that it had no choice but to cooperate with UN watchdog. — MNA/Reuters

## Arab official assassinated in Kirkuk

KIRKUK (Iraq), 17 March — An Arab member of Kirkuk's city council and his bodyguard were shot dead in a drive-by shooting on Monday, underscoring rising political tensions in the ethnically divided northern Iraq city.

Witnesses said a red car pulled up alongside a vehicle carrying Agar al-Tawil, a Shi'ite Arab council member, and his bodyguard and opened fire. The vehicle skidded to a halt and the assailants then got out and fired more shots at the victims.

"Two men got out of the red car and went to Tawil's car and just started shooting," witness Haider Mohammed said.

Major-General Hazim al-Obeidi of the Kirkuk police confirmed the assassination and said an investigation was under way.

Kirkuk, which sits on some of Iraq's richest oil reserves, is divided among Arabs, Kurds and Turks, all of whom lay claim to the city. — MNA/Reuters



Japan's Ryoumei Engineering unveils a fish robot shaped like a coelacanth. Tanzanian fishermen have caught coelacanth, a rare species of fish that was once believed to be extinct, a senior conservation official said recently.

INTERNET

## UN gets first food convoy to north Haiti city

PORT-AU-PRINCE (Haiti), 17 March — The first UN food convoy since Haiti's armed revolt began on 5 February has reached the northern city of Cap Haitien and will distribute emergency supplies to schools on Monday.

Alejandro Chicheri of the UN's World Food Programme said a truck with 20 tons of food to feed 3,700 children managed to get from Port-au-Prince to Cap Haitien on Sunday, passing through several roadblocks in rebel-held areas.

"We haven't spoken to any of the authorities here but we expect they will re-

spect the humanitarian work on the ground," Chicheri said in a telephone interview from Cap Haitien.

Aid agencies say conditions in the barren north of the poorest country of the Americas are desperate and thousands of people are threatened by hunger and disease.

The arrival of the UN

food convoy was the first delivery of food to Cap Haitien in more than a month. The UN agency's warehouse in the city was looted during the revolt. Tens of thousands of people, scraping subsistence living from arid and eroded soils, are dependent on food handouts in Haiti's north.

MNA/Reuters

# Iraq under US and allies' occupation

## Innocent civilian deaths under US occupation in Iraq

### Innocent civilian deaths in Iraq

Date	Location	Death toll
20-3-2003	Rutba	1
20-3-2003 to 7-4-2003	General Hospital, Basra	201
20-3-2003 to 3-4-2003	Mohammedia Distirct	22
20-3-2003 to 3-4-2003	Nassiriya	240
22-3-2003	Tikrit	5
22-3-2003	Baghdad	3
26-3-2003	Baghdad	21
27-3-2003 to 12-4-2003	Hillah and surrounding areas	201
27-3-2003	Mosul	50
28-3-2003	Missan	2
28-3-2003	Waset	2
28-3-2003	Babel	26
28-3-2003	Karbala	11
28-3-2003	Baghdad	7
28-3-2003	Baghdad	62
29-3-2003	Baghdad	6
29-3-2003	Najaf	35
29-3-2003	Karbala	6
29-3-2003	Babel	3
29-3-2003	Anbar	28
30-3-2003	Baghdad	6
31-3-2003	near Hilla	15
31-3-2003	Baghdad	6
1-4-2003	Baghdad	24
1-4-2003	Babylon province	33
3-4-2003	Baghdad	27
5-4-2003	Rashidiya	99
8-4-2003	Al-Jazeera office, Baghdad	1
9-4-2003	Fathlia	4
11 to 22-4-2003	Ar-Ramadi	18
23-9-2003	al-Jisar village	3
29-9-2003	Kahaldiyah	1
5-1-2004	Tikrit	2
6-1-2004	Fallujah	2
7-1-2004	Baghdad	1
14-1-2004	Bakuba	2
16-1-2004	Samarah	8
29-2-2004	Baghdad	2
2-3-2004	Samawah	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>1187</b>

US and allies invaded Iraq on 20 March 2003. Following the invasion, armed attacks against US-led coalition forces by Iraqi guerillas increased and more and more Iraqis are becoming victims of the US-led led occupation and remain hopeless.



*Iraqi men check the destroyed house of Mohammed al-Issawi, a local leader in the village of Ameriya, near the restive town of Fallujah, 50km west of Baghdad, on 16 February. Witnesses said US forces killed al-Issawi.*



*Iraqi girl Aween Aras, age 11, is kept company by relatives, inside a hospital as she recovers from wounds she suffered when a car bomb exploded near where she had been walking to school, in Kirkuk, northern Iraq on 23 Feb 2004.*



*A group of Iraqi men survey the damaged house of a local leader in the village of Ameriya, near Fallujah, some 50 km (30 miles) west of the Iraqi capital Baghdad, on 16 February, 2004.*

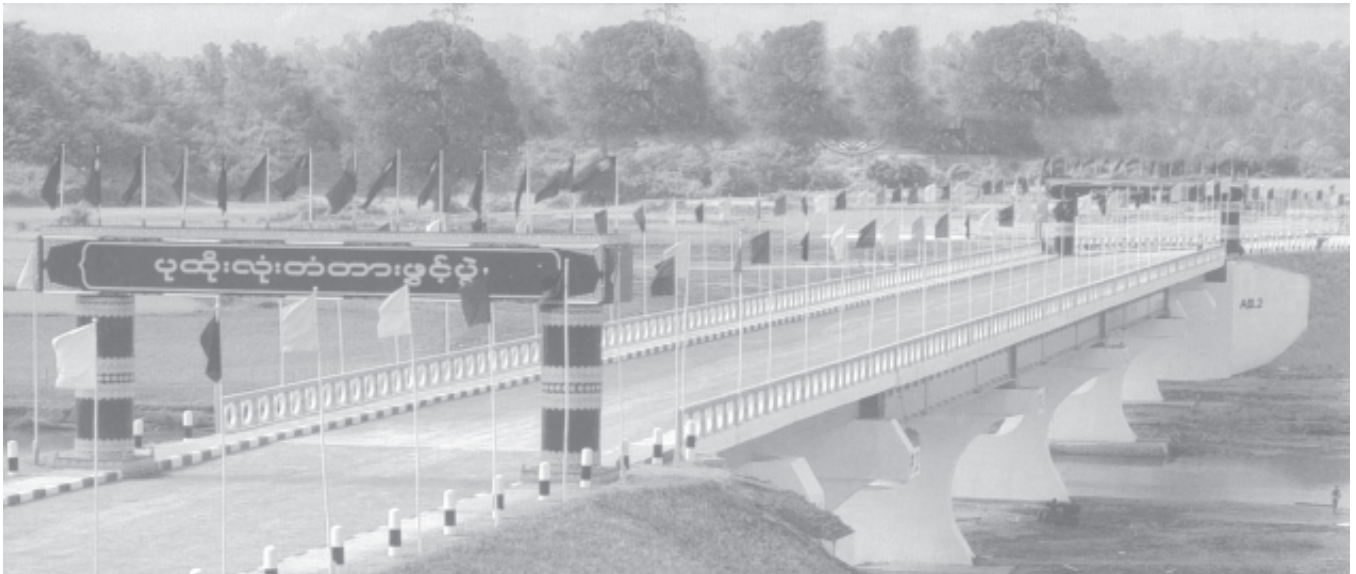


*A civilian wounded in a car bomb attack lies in the al-Karama hospital in Baghdad on 16 February.*



Hailing the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day:

## Tatmadaw always serving the interest of the nation and the people



Map showing the location of the Pahtolon Bridge.

### Pahtolon Bridge on Monywa-Yagyi-Kalewa Road

The Pahtolon Bridge constructed by the Tatmadaw was inaugurated on 3-1-2004. It is situated at milepost No 57 on Monywa-Yagyi-Kalewa Road in Kani Township, Monywa District, Sagaing Division.

**The Tatmadaw and the people are inseparable**

### Facts about Pahtolon Bridge

Length	450 feet
Width of motorway	28 feet
Width of each pedestrian lane	4 feet
Type of the bridge	
Upper structure	steel beam reinforced concrete
Lower structure	reinforced concrete
Tonnage permitted	60
Launching date	9-12-2002
Completion date	8-12-2003

### Salient points on Pahtolon Bridge

The Pahtolon Bridge Project could be accomplished in a year thanks to day-and-night efforts of the Tatmadaw. All the quality steel beams installed to the facility are produced by the State-owned steel factory.



Beautiful scenery of the Pahtolon Bridge.

## The Tatmadaw (Armed Forces) in perpetual service of the people



Myanmar Tatmadaw has been discharging its duties brilliantly from Bagan period up to the present time.

—Whenever the State's sovereignty was encroached upon, Tatmadaw members managed to completely wipe out the destructive elements at risk to their lives.

—Whenever a foreign country intruded into the nation, the Tatmadaw, holding whatever arms they could get, brilliantly and bravely fought against the intruders. It never hesitated to launch just battles to defend the lives and property of the people.

—When peace prevails across the nation, its members serve the interests of the people.

In the battles against insurgents, many Tatmadaw members have sacrificed their lives or limbs. They also sustained serious injuries. Years passed but the people still remember the heroes of the Tatmadaw. They have been recorded in history.

There have been a great deal of historic battles launched to defend and

safeguard the national sovereignty.

Of them, the Point 6041 Camp battle that took place in Tangyan, Shan State (North), at 8 am on 6 March

about the Point 6041 Hill battle who commanded and controlled his subordinates during the battle. In the interview, Major Thiha Thura Thein Tun Tin (Retd) said "Our company was assigned to discharge duty under No 2 Tactical Operation Command of the North-East Command. Other companies were assigned duty somewhere. The four platoons were under my charge. Point 6041 was under my command and control. There lay Thanlwin River right in front of us. BCP insurgents were on the other bank of the river. So, we were on the front line. BCP battalion No 016 was on the other bank of the river." He said, "The camp in Naunglaing was at the back of our troops. There were rations, arms and ammunition and other supplies at the camp. The Infantry Regiment No 33 had to take security duty for the camp. We got information about the enemy's ac-

and 12 arrived at Lwesan via Tarhsaichan jetty at about 8 am on 6 March 1978. At 9 pm on that day, Lieutenant Khin Maung Aye and his men lay in wait at a hillock and a close battle ensued. After several engagements, Lieutenant Khin Maung Aye sacrificed his life.

On 7 March, about 200 BCP insurgents launched an attack on the camp with the use of small and heavy weapons. But in the face of a strong resistance, the insurgents suffered heavy losses and had to withdraw, he said.

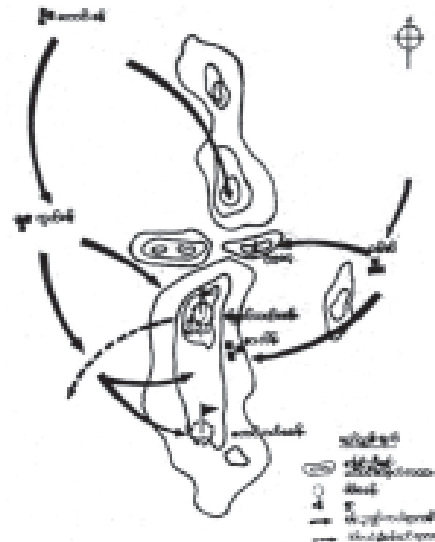
"At 6 am on 8 March, the BCP insurgents again made a fierce attack on our camp. They opened artillery fire on us. But we did not return fire in order to save our ammunition. The enemies approached closer to our camp. But, our men fought them with hand grenades. So, they had to retreat. They no longer dared for a close fight and instead

provided us with supporting air-to-surface fire, they retreated at last", he said.

"On 10 March, they acted cowardly. They set fire to the foothill. But, we had already taken preventive measures for that and we had been able to extinguish the blaze", said Major Thiha Thura Thein Tun Tin (Retd).

nel. However, I had to ignore the wound. I tied the wound with a piece of cloth and then went on fighting", he said.

"At 5pm on 13 March evening, I witnessed the arrival of BCP reinforcements numbering some 70. We were unperturbed. We were prepared to sacrifice our lives while fighting in



Map showing the battle of Point 6041.

He added, "On 11 March, we lay in wait to attack the enemies but they did not come" he said.

"Starting from 6 am on 12 March, they opened

the interest of the nation and the people. Before long, the enemies fired their weapons on the camp most intensely. But, we fought them back without fear. At

## Point 6041 battle, testament to Tatmadaw's heroic sacrifices

1987 was not only an exemplary one for the Tatmadaw members but also the one that reflected the great courage, heroic

activities to launch an attack on our camp. Then, we received reinforcements. And I got the four platoons including Lieutenant Khin

they opened artillery fire from a distance", he said.

"The number of our men at the camp was just 57 and it was greatly outnumbered

**In fact, the Tatmadaw waged a lot of anti-imperialist and anti-fascist wars hand in hand with the people and regained independence. After regaining the independence, the Tatmadaw safeguarded the independence sacrificing their lives and waged many battles that could decide the fate of the State. The Tatmadawmen sacrificed their lives, blood and sweat for the country they love and cherish. The Tatmadawmen wrote the history with blood for the sake of independence and sovereignty. Many historic battles have proved the brave spirit of the Tatmadaw.**

sacrifices, perseverance and brilliant combat skills of the Tatmadaw.

Myanma Alin daily interviewed Major Thiha Thura Thein Tun Tin (Retd)

Maung Aye ready for the attack".

He said that local residents of nearby villages informed them about the arrival of BCP brigade Nos 8

by the enemies. They tried again to seize our camp at 5 am the following day. As we made sure that each bullet killed one enemy, and as the Tatmadaw (Air)

heavy weapons fire and approached the camp. Once they could approach the fence, they tried to pull it down. They fired 40mm launcher on the fence posts that could not be pulled down. Then, they came up in groups", he said.

"Some 200 BCP insurgents approached the hill from the north and some 150 troops approached the hill from the south. And they engaged bayonet fights for three times with us. But we steadfastly resisted their attacks. Then, they withdrew in disorder. At that time, the ammunition left in our hands was very low. So, we got hold of an M-23 sub-machine gun, four M-22 launchers and one 40mm launcher from the dead insurgents lying near the bunkers. We used the enemy weapons to resist their attacks. In the afternoon, they tried to attack us again," he said.

"While I was firing a 2-inch mortar on the insurgents, the four launcher shells of the enemy exploded around me and my left eye was hit by a shrap-

that time, there left average of around 20 bullets with each of us. Considering all the facts, I decided to penetrate the enemy and move out of the camp at 8 pm sharp. The wounded one and I moved first. Under-officer Win Myint and five members remained at the camp and resisted the enemy. About 30 minutes later, they followed us along the way we had retreated. Under the light of the stars, we continued. We arrived at the top of Namlaung Creek at 1 am on 14 March. And we got to the bank of Thanlwin River at 12.30 pm. We sent a scout to Phanmon village to contact the villagers. They helped and treated us well. When we arrived at Nankyein village, we met with other platoons that had also penetrated the enemies. We then met with No 104 Light Infantry Regiment. And then we arrived at Tangyan at 2 pm on 17 March. Officials concerned and townspeople welcomed us. This is a brief account of Point 6041 battle", he said.

(See page 9)



Myanmar soldiers who bravely fight against the enemies.



## Hailing the 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Armed Forces Day



(from page 8)

His explanation was so interesting that I had goose-pimples when I heard him recall his experience. And I could not help praising them for their unyielding spirit. The villagers helped the Tatmadaw members ignoring possible dangers to them.

It indicated that the villagers responded to the genuine goodwill of the Tatmadaw members who served the interest of local people. I asked him for more information.

"Let me know how the Tatmadawmen under your command faced the situation without any fear in the battle."

"Though the Tatmadawmen knew that they had to face the greater number of enemies and death, they did not feel depressed. In the battle, the enemy fired heavily. If someone felt

possesses the ten strengths," he explained. The Tatmadawmen are brave and courageous.

I asked him how he faced the difficulties in the battle.

"Water and ammunition got less and less. According to the advice of the training masters, a pit was dug and it was covered with some length of water-proof and it evaporated.

The moisture was collected in the mug and we drank some drops of water and ate a kind of asparagus and bark of eastern gooseberry in order to satisfy the thirst. We reported on our situation to the superior level and we were not depressed.

Senior officials encouraged us. We decided to continue to fight the enemy after drinking the blood of the chickens raised at the camp if there was no wa-

ter and the help rendered by the local people.

He said he was not shocked when his eye was wounded by a shrapnel. He kept on fighting after tying the eye with a piece of cloth. Red flags were hoisted near the battlefield and the spirit of the Tatmadawmen was enhanced. There were BCPs on nearby mountain ranges. If the leader had given up hope, the company would have collapsed. But there was mutual confidence among them.

He said that his men believed that the company commander would never abandon them and would be with them alive or dead forever. With this belief, they became alert and active.

He told them the banners and Bayintnaung's spirit which would make them active and gave them poems written by himself to read. He told them that even if they sacrificed their lives for the country, their performance would be documented.

He said, "I would like to express kindness of local people towards the Tatmadawmen. When our company retreated from the camp, a sergeant who was wounded severely was left with a hand grenade.

When the enemies captured him they buried him with only his head was on the ground.

After a week, the enemies left. Local villagers took him to the hospital. He finally died there. That was their loving-kindness and good-will shown towards the Tatmadawmen. Whenever we reached their regions they helped us and showed us the way", he said.

The people in that region have witnessed atrocities of the BCP insurgents. The Tatmadawmen rendered assistance to the people and distributed medicines. As a result, the local people helped the Tatmadaw.

When we review the situation of the battle re-

counted by Major Thiha Thura Thein Tun Tin (Retd), the Tatmadawmen were attacked by the enemies whose number was greater more than ten times that of the Tatmadawmen using heavy artillery fire. But the Tatmadawmen fought the enemies with unyielding spirit under the command of the company commander.

In the point 6041 battle, officer and other rank totaling 15 sacrificed their lives for the country and 12 Tatmadawmen including the company commander were wounded. Over 200 enemies were killed.

The Tatmadawmen fought the enemies for seven days and eight nights. On their retreat 42 Tatmadawmen including a company commander managed to return to the mother unit.

During the battle, the Tatmadawmen tenaciously fought the enemies using the enemies' arms. In spite of the loss of an eye, the company commander discharged his duty diligently and brilliantly.

Therefore the State awarded him Thiha Thura title for his excellent performance. Due to the fighting of the Tatmadawmen there are now no BCPs.

In fact, the Tatmadaw waged a lot of anti-imperialist and anti-fascist wars hand in hand with the people and regained independence.

After regaining the independence, the Tatmadaw safeguarded the independence sacrificing their lives and waged many battles that could decide the fate of the State.

The Tatmadawmen sacrificed their lives, blood and sweat for the country they love and cherish. The Tatmadawmen wrote the history with blood for the sake of independence and sovereignty.

Many historic battles have proved the brave spirit of the Tatmadaw.

Translation MS + NY

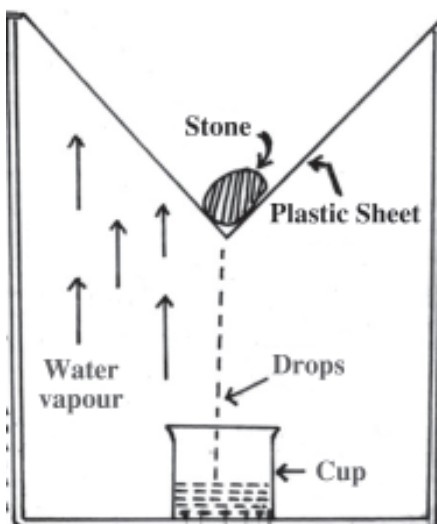
### Hailing the 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Armed Forces Day

#### Poem

#### Summer full of golden blooms

- \* For the land to pride itself with golden sheen  
Golden plant opens its heart out  
Golden blooms are aplenty.
- \* The rude winds  
Wrap around to seek revenge  
No matter how fierce the rain may be  
If there's an impediment go meet it  
If there's a tiger, let it bite  
In the crushing of the enemy  
Won't let the flag down even if the hull alone is left  
Valour and integrity will shine out  
In summer, the new will arrive  
In the form of new blooms...
- \* Soldier son of the people  
Emerald hue topped by gold  
Martial songs sung in unison  
Red victory flags present a crimson hue.
- \* O, graced by eugenia sprigs  
Hands bathed in fragrance  
There's *sabe* and *gamone* in the bloom  
Most dainty belle sends out love  
There's welcome with hands outstretched  
Who could own this land  
And who could watch its beauty  
This is the time glory shines like gold  
On this good earth under open sky  
Myanmar land is the most beautiful  
In verse one would describe  
When summer's dawn takes the golden hue  
Well, the sacred flows are aglow.

Myinmu Maung Naing Moe (Trs)



How water is obtained.

frightened, so would be others. If one had courage, so did others. We faced and overcame difficulties in the battle. We braced up hand in hand with the fellow Tatmadawmen. If we did not stand firmly, we all would collapse. We were able to face a large number of enemies due to the strong spirit. We gained victory because our Tatmadawmen

ter. When we were short of arms and ammunition, we took hold of the arms near the bunker left by the dead enemies and fought them. We brought those arms on the way back to the mother unit," he explained. I praised them for their courage. The Tatmadawmen gained victory due to their capability. I asked him about the wound in the bat-



Map showing the battle of Point 6041.



Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win inspects marching drills of parade columns.— PUPR

## Parade columns practises marching drills

YANGON, 17 March— Parade columns which will participate in the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Parade practised marching drills from Myoma Grounds to the Resistance Park from 6 am to 9.30 am today.

Tatmadawmen, members of Myanmar Police Force and Red Cross Brigade of Anawrahta, Kyansittha, Bayintnaung, Nawade, Aungzeya, Hsinbyushin, Bandoola, Myawady and Aung San Columns led by Reserve Parade Commander Col Nyi Tun participated in the marching drills.

Present on the occasion were Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win, Vice-Chiefs of Armed Forces Training Maj-Gen Win Myint and Brig-Gen Nyan Win, senior military officers and officials.

MNA



## Second round of ISD Golf Team Championship continues

YANGON, 17 March— The 26th Inter-State/Division Golf Team Championship, mainly sponsored by Isuzu Motors Ltd of Japan, co-organized by Sports and Physical Education Department and Myanmar Golf Federation, continued for the second day at Yangon Gold Club in Danyingon this morning.

Shan State (East) team was leading the team scratch event with 456 strokes in the second round, followed by Yangon Division with 465 and Sagaing Division with 469.

In the individual scratch event, Naing Naing Lin of Yangon Division put his position in the first place with 148 strokes. Maj Khin Zaw Win of Shan State (East) was behind the leader with 149 and Aung Win of Sagaing Division with 150.

In the team handicap event, Shan State (East) scored 406 strokes. Its runners-up were Kachin State with 410 and Mon State with 411.

In the individual handicap event, Eike Htaung of Shan State (East) was leading with 133 strokes, followed by Maj Khin Zaw Win of Shan State (East) with 133 and Kyaw Thet Wai of Shan State (North) with 135.

The third round of the championship will continue tomorrow.— MNA



Major Khin Zaw Win takes part in the golf tournament.— MGF

## Shwedaung Township MCWA gets new pre-primary school Building

YANGON, 17 March— The opening of pre-primary school building of Shwedaung Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association was held at the school in the combined housing compound in Thayettaw Ward in Shwedaung on 14 March.

Present were Vice-President of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint, Patron of Bago

Division MCWA Supervisory Committee wife of Chairman of Bago Division Peace and Development Council and Commander of Southern Command Daw Sao Non Khun Sam, Patron of Bago Division (West) MCWA Supervisory Committee wife of Bago Division (West) Peace and Development Council Daw Naing Naing Maw and members, Shwedaung Township MCWA members, officials and guests.

Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint, Daw Sao Non Khun Sam and Daw Naing Naing Maw formally opened the school.

Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint spoke on the occasion. Secretary of Shwedaung Township Peace and Development Council U Khin Maung Kyi reported on construction of the school. Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council U Hla Win Tin presented related documents to Chairman of Township MCWA Daw Aye Aye Myint.

Daw Aye Aye Myint presented commemorative pennants to Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint and officials. They presented gifts to children at the school.— MNA

## Ziwaka Mobile Health Train gives treatment to 1,899 patients

YANGON, 17 March— Hailing the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, Ziwaka Mobile Health Train, jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Rail Transportation, stopped over in Nyaunglaybin Station yesterday and provided treatment to patients from Nyaunglaybin and its surrounding villages.

Minister for Health Dr Kyaw Myint and Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation Thura U Thauung Lwin closely supervised performance of specialists. They gave health care service to 1,128 patients and performed surgical operation on 17 patients at the operation theatre of Nyaunglaybin Hospital.

Minister Dr Kyaw Myint and Deputy Minister Thura U Thauung Lwin inspected the surgical operations at the hospital.

This morning, 771 patients were also given treatment at the train and two patients were performed surgical operations at Nyaunglaybin Hospital.

The mobile train could give medical treatment to 1,899 patients in Nyaunglaybin yesterday and today and arrived back here in the evening.

The train will leave for railway stations in various regions of the country, to provide medical treatment at public request.

MNA

## မိုးကြိုးရန်လျှော်/ချည်ပေါင်လျှော် စိုက်ပျိုးရေးနိုးဆော်ချက်

- ၁။ စိုက်ပျိုးရာသီချိန်အမိ စိုက်ပျိုးပါ။ မိုးကြိုးရန်လျှော်/ချည်ပေါင်လျှော် များကို ဧရာဝတီတိုင်းနှင့် ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းတို့တွင် ဖေဖော်ဝါရီလလယ်မှ ဧပြီလလယ်အတွင်းတွင်လည်းကောင်း၊ ပဲခူးတိုင်းတွင် မတ်လဆန်းမှ ဧပြီလကုန် အတွင်းတွင်လည်းကောင်း အပြီးစိုက်ပျိုးပါ။
- ၂။ ထယ်ရေနက်နက်နှင့် ထွန်ရေညက်ညက်ရအောင် ဆောင်ရွက်ပါ။
- ၃။ မြေခဲမြေဩဇာကို မမြစ်မနေထည့်သွင်းသုံးစွဲပါ။  
မြေခဲမြေဩဇာအဖြစ် တစ်ဧကလျှင် သဘာဝမြေဩဇာလှည်း(၅)စီးမှ (၁၀)စီးအထိလည်းကောင်း၊ ယူရီယာ ဓါတ်မြေဩဇာအနည်းဆုံး(၂၅)ဂရမ်နှင့် ပိုတက်ရှ်မြေဩဇာ (၁၂.၅)ဂရမ်တို့ ထည့်သွင်း သုံးစွဲပါ။
- ၄။ စိုက်ပျိုးရေပြည့်ပြည့်ဝဝတင်သွင်းပါ။ ရေတင်သွင်းရာတွင် အောက်ရေဆက်သည့်အထိ ပြည့်ပြည့်ဝဝ တင်သွင်းပါ။
- ၅။ မျိုးကောင်းမျိုးသန့် ရွေးချယ်စိုက်ပျိုးပါ။  
အပင်ပေါက်ရာခိုင်နှုန်း(၈၀)နှင့် အထက်ရှိသောမျိုးများကို ဂုဏ်လျှော် တစ်ဧကလျှင် မျိုးစေ့(၂)ပြည်နှုန်း၊ ချည်ပေါင်လျှော် တစ်ဧကလျှင် မျိုးစေ့(၄)ပြည်နှုန်း သုံးစွဲပါ။
- ၆။ အစိုဓါတ်အချိန်မီအောင် စိုက်ပျိုးပါ။မျိုးစေ့စိုက်ပျိုးရန်အတွက် မြေအစိုဓါတ်သင့်တင့်ချိန်တွင် စိုက်ထွန်ရေဖွင့် ထွန်ယက်၍ စိုက်ပျိုးပြီး ကြမ်းဖုံးပါ။
- ၇။ ပိုးမွှားအန္တရာယ်ကာကွယ်ခံနိုင်ပါ။ ပုရစ်အန္တရာယ်မှ ကင်းဝေးရန်အတွက် စိုက်ခင်းအနီးရှိ အမှိုက်သရိုက်များကို မီးရှို့ဖျက်ဆီးပါ။ ပုရစ်ကျရောက်မည့်အန္တရာယ်ရှိပါက မွှားစာအဆိပ်တုံး ပြုလုပ်၍ စိုက်ခင်းပတ်ပတ်လည်နှင့် တွင်းအတွင်းတွင် ချထားပါ။
- ၈။ နည်းပညာနှင့်အကူအညီရယူလိုပါက နီးစပ်ရာ မြန်မာ့ ဂုဏ်လျှော် ပစ္စည်းလုပ်ငန်း ဒေသရုံးများနှင့်ဆက်သွယ် အကူအညီရယူပါ။

လယ်ယာစိုက်ပျိုးရေးနှင့်ဆည်မြောင်းဝန်ကြီးဌာန



Minister for Finance & Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun sees off Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe and delegation.— F&R

## Deputy Minister leaves for Manila

YANGON, 17 March— Deputy Minister for Finance & Revenue Col Hla Thein Swe left here by air yesterday evening to attend a seminar on laying down financial and monetary policies in East Asian region by ASEAN+3 countries to be held in Manila, the Philippines.

Minister for Finance & Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun, officials and relatives saw him off at the Yangon International Airport.

MNA



Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein speaks at the meeting.— MNA

## Information Sub-committee for Organizing Fourth World Buddhist Summit meets

YANGON, 17 March— The Information Sub-committee for Organizing the Fourth World Buddhist Summit held its fourth co-ordination meeting at Myanmar Radio and Television on Pyay Road, here, this morning. Information Sub-committee Chairman Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein and member depart-

mental heads and officials attended the meeting.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Aung Thein said that dissemination of information, keeping on records and covering of documentary news will be harmoniously carried out through mass media by departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Information. These

tasks will be divided into three portions— before the summit, during the summit and after the summit.

Next, the chairman and secretaries of work groups reported on tasks for news release and watched the videoed songs covered for the summit. Later, the deputy minister gave necessary instructions.

MNA



## Organizational set-up of MWAFF explained

YANGON, 17 March— President of Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, accompanied by Vice-President Daw Than Than Nwe and officials, arrived at the office of Tamu District Peace and Development Council on 15 March morning.

Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe and party held a meeting to explain functions of MWAFF to Tamu District Organization for Women's Affairs. Present were wife of the Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Daw Wai Wai Khaing, Chairman of Tamu District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Win Zaw and wife, members of Tamu District Organization for Women's Affairs totaling about 150.

At the meeting, Dr



MWAFF President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe delivers an address in meeting with Tamu District Organization for Women's Affairs. — MNA

Daw Khin Win Shwe gave a speech, saying that Myanmar Women's Affairs Federation was formed on 20 December 2003. Being a social organization, the federation can carry out development of the women's section effectively. They arrived in Tamu, a border town, so as to explain or-

ganizational set-up of the federation. It is necessary to actively participate in elimination of human trafficking in that border region. All members are to forge national spirit and cherish traditional culture. And, the members are to actively carry out tasks in accord with the guidance of the

CEC for ensuring perpetual existence of fine traditions and capabilities of the Myanmar women.

MWAFF Secretary Prof Dr Daw Khin Mar Tun explained organizational set-up and submitting of membership applications; Vice-President Daw Khin Lay Thet functions of edu-

cation, health, economic, environmental conservation, organizing, enforcement of discipline and finance/management working groups; Vice-President Daw Than Than Nwe functions of culture, information/communication, girls, national races affairs, prevention of violence against women, pre-

vention of human trafficking, nursery and resettlement working groups.

Next, President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe accepted K 1 million donated by wellwishers and presented certificates of honour to them. Later, the president spoke words of thanks. — MNA

## Prime Minister addresses meeting ...

(from page 1)

of set; Daw Chaw Khin Khin, on behalf of e-Procurement Project Coordinator, on e-Procurement Project being implemented by the MICTDC; Project Co-ordinator of the MICTDC Daw Khin Aye Win, on Smart Card Based Vehicle Registration Project; member of the

board of directors of the MICTDC U Pyone Maung Maung, on Budget P.C Project; and those present, on progress in carrying out ICT tasks.

In his address, the Prime Minister said that the ICT sector is making progress with a great momentum thanks to the encouragement of the

government and efforts of computer scientists.

In this regard, collective efforts are to be made in unison to maintain and speed up the already-achieved momentum, he said. With combination of originally high intelligence of Myanmar nationals, modern ICT equipment and technologies, success can be

made as expected, he said.

Experts, scholars and industrialists engaged in the ICT field, on their part, are to carry out their tasks in an active manner catching up with international ICT developments and to present reports to responsible persons on requirements to be rendered by the State in time, he said. — MNA

## Observance of Thingyan in traditional way discussed

YANGON, 17 March — The Discipline Enforcement Committee for 1365 ME Traditional Maha Thingyan Festival held a coordination meeting at the office of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council this afternoon, with a speech by Chairman of the Discipline Enforcement Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe.

Also present were Vice-Chairman of the committee Deputy Commander Col Wai Lwin, military region commanders, Yangon City Development Committee Secretary Col Myint Aung, departmental heads, officials and local authorities. In his speech, Maj-Gen Myint Swe said that this year's traditional Thingyan Festival will be observed in accordance with Myanmar's fine traditions. Necessary measures are to be taken in advance to hold educational talks to the people since advance will be taken against those who violate the rules and regulations during the festival period, he said. — MNA



The coordination meeting in progress. — UMFCFI

## Fund raising concert to be staged

YANGON, 17 March— A meeting to coordinate measures for organizing the Myanmar-Korean friendship concert in the first week of May at the National Theatre here, was held at the UMFCFI head office this afternoon. UMFCFI

President U Win Myint, Film Director Bogalay Tint Aung, officials and others were present at the meeting. — MNA

## Youth Teachership Course opened

YANGON, 17 March— The Youth Teachership Course, co-organized by Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, UNFPA, Fund for Prevention of HIV/AIDS in Myanmar (FHAM), was opened at the building of MMCWA in South Okkalapa Township this morning.

Present were MMCWA President Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe, Vice-President Dr Daw Tin Lin Myint, CEC members, Patron of Yangon Division Supervisory Committee for MCWA Daw Khin Thet Htay and members, Resident Representative of UNFPA Mr Najib M Assifi and officials, officials of UN agencies, course instructors and youths. First, Dr Daw Khin Win Shwe spoke on the occasion. Resident Representative of UNFPA Mr Najib M Assifi explained the purpose of opening the course. Altogether 42 youths of states and divisions are attending the course which will last up to 22 March. — MNA

## MAWFA members visit Union National Races Village

YANGON, 17 March— The Myanmar ASEAN Women's Friendship Association led by members of the Board of Patrons Daw San Yone, wife of Minister for Foreign Affairs U Win Aung, and Daw Le Le Kyi, wife of Deputy Minister U Kyaw Thu, accompanied by honorary members cum wives of ministers, Lady Ambassador and wives of embassies of ASEAN member countries and diplomats, visited Union National Races Village in Thakayta Township this morning. Afterwards, they paid homage to Kyaikhmawwun Pagoda in Kyauktan and donated cash towards the funds of the pagoda. Next, they toured other places of interest. — MNA



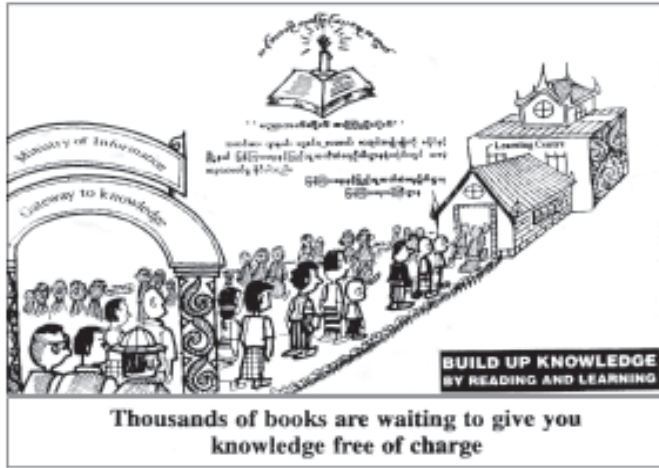
The sales of jade lots through competitive bidding in progress. — MNA

## Jade lots earn over 1.3 million euro on second day

YANGON, 17 March— Jade lots were being sold through tender system at the 41st Myanmar gems emporium from 5 pm to 10 pm yesterday and 218 lots of jade worth 1,197,654 euros were sold. A total of 378 jade lots worth 3,257,641 euros were sold through tender system and competitive bidding yesterday. The emporium continued today and 50 lots of jade worth 1,351,986 euros were sold. — MNA



Police Major Win Naing of Myanmar and Police Col Ding Zhi Shen of China sign in the document on the handing over of the fugitive. (News on page 16) — MNA



## ADVERTISEMENTS

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for **Beiersdorf AG**  
P.O. Box 60, Yangon  
Dated: 18 March, 2004

## HK scientists get another chance joining Mars exploration

HONG KONG, 17 March — Hong Kong scientists will get another job in Mars exploration after the British-made *Beagle 2* landing craft carrying their tools failed the mission recently.

Monday's *South China Morning Post* reported that the Russian Space Agency plans to use the same or modified rock corer designed

**လူ့စွမ်းအားအရင်းအမြစ်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးမှုအဖွဲ့**  
(ရန်ကုန်နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာတက္ကသိုလ်)  
**နေရာသီဥတုသင်တန်းသင်တန်း**  
**လျှောက်ထားသူအသိပေးခြင်း**

လူ့စွမ်းအားအရင်းအမြစ်ဖွံ့ဖြိုးမှုအဖွဲ့ (ရန်ကုန်နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာတက္ကသိုလ်) က အသက်(၁၅)နှစ် မှ (၃၀)နှစ် အရွယ်အထိ ကျောင်းသား ကျောင်းသူများအတွက် နေရာသီဥတုသင်တန်းသင်တန်း အခြေခံသင်တန်းများ ဖွင့်လှစ်ပါမည်။

ဖွင့်လှစ်သည့်သင်တန်းများ - ဂျပန်ဘာသာ၊ ပြင်သစ်ဘာသာ၊ တရုတ်ဘာသာ၊ သင်တန်းကာလ - ၁-၄-၂၀၀၄ မှ ၂၀-၅-၂၀၀၄ ထိ

သင်တန်းအမည် - Elementary French, Elementary Japanese, Elementary Chinese

လက်မှတ် - Certificate ပေးအပ်မည်ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

သင်တန်းတက်ရောက်လိုသူများသည် မိဘ/အုပ်စုထိန်းသိမ်းမှုများကို ယုံကြည်စိတ်ချစွာ ပေးအပ်ရန် လိုအပ်ပါသည်။

၁၅-၃-၂၀၀၄ (တရုတ်သင်္ကြန်) မှ စတင်၍ ရန်ကုန်နိုင်ငံခြားဘာသာတက္ကသိုလ်တွင် ပုံစံပေးသည့် ပြဌာန်းချက်တမ်းစီစဉ်ပါသည်။

အသေးစိတ်ကို တယ်လီဖုန်းအမှတ် ၅၄၄၃၀၀(ရန်ကုန်) ၁၂၃၂၅၂၀၀ သို့ ဆက်သွယ်မေးမြန်းနိုင်ပါသည်။

## Serbia steps up anti-terrorist measures

BELGRADE, 17 March — Serbian police are stepping up anti-terrorist measures in the republic, the *Tanjug* news agency reported Monday.

Tougher security measures have been taken at border crossings, important facilities and densely populated places, according to a statement from the Serbian Inter-

rior Ministry.

The Serbian police are cooperating with other Serbian and Serbia-Montenegro security services as well as police forces in the region and overseas, the statement said.

After last week's deadly bomb attacks in Madrid, which claimed 200 lives,

wounding some 1,500 people, many European countries have strengthened anti-terrorist measures.—MNA/Xinhua

## Cargo exports from HKIA soar in February

HONG KONG, 17 March — Cargo throughput at Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) stood at 223,000 tons in February, a 39.4-per cent increase over February last year.

Exports (loaded cargo) was 51.1 per cent higher, mainly attributed to strong US domestic consumption and a rise in exports from the Chinese Mainland stimulated by a strong euro currency, according to a Press release from HKIA Sunday.

Cargo throughput for the 12 months to February was 2.71 million tons, 7.3 per cent higher than the corresponding period the year before.

Passenger traffic was 2.42 million in February, a reduction of 10.7 per cent year-on-year. Passenger throughput for the last 12 months was 27.32 million, 21.1 per cent lower than the previous year.

Aircraft movements for February rose by 3.5 per cent to 17,175, driven by a 36-per cent surge in cargo flights. There were 188,500 movements for the past 12 months, a decrease of 10.6 per cent.

MNA/Xinhua

## Brazil struggles to slow Amazon destruction

BRASILIA (Brazil), 17 March — Brazil unveiled long-promised plans on Monday to stop destruction of the Amazon rain forest.

Amid criticism the centre-left government failed to move swiftly enough on the issue in its first year, Environment Minister Marina Silva promised a system of satellite monitoring, investigations and new laws to curb environmental crimes that

activists fear destroyed an area of jungle the size of Belgium during 2003.

"We have to make a difference in relation to this perverse dynamic of deforestation," Silva told reporters one day before the government was expected to release figures showing Amazon deforestation increased during 2003. President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva promised to introduce satellite monitoring

of deforestation last year after he announced a 40-per cent jump in destruction of the world's largest jungle from 2001 to 2002. Critics accuse Lula of allowing the deforestation to go unabated, and even hastening it, as he focuses on projects to end the economic stagnation and high unemployment that has dogged Brazil since he entered office in January 2003.—MNA/Reuters

## ပြည်တွင်းပြစ်တိုအားပေးပါ

## Spain retreats from blaming ETA in attack

UNITED NATIONS, 17 March — Spain backed down on Monday in its assertion that only the Basque separatist group ETA was responsible for the Madrid train bombings, telling the United Nations it was investigating foreign nationals.

Despite misgivings, the 15-member Council adopted an unusual resolution just hours after the attack on Thursday that identified ETA as the perpetrator of the bombings that killed 200 people and wounded 1,500 on four commuter trains.

Spain's UN Ambassador, Inocencio Arias, said in a letter to the Council that his government acted in good faith when it told members that ETA was responsible for the bombings.

"Since then they have found, through the efforts of the state security agencies, new elements which have led us to open other lines of inquiry that point to the involvement of citizens of other countries in the attacks," Arias said.

"It is not possible for the moment to reach definitive

conclusions. The government of Spain will inform the council of the results of its investigations," he said in the letter.

Envoys said they considered the Spanish letter the equivalent of a careful diplomatic apology. Rescinding a resolution is nearly impossible.

France's UN Ambassador Jean-Marc de La Sabliere, president of the Council, called the letter "a welcome development". Sabliere had drawn up original draft that did not blame ETA.

MNA/Reuters

## Missile umbrella ready for Athens Olympic Games

ATHENS, 17 March — A "missile umbrella" made up of *Patriot*, *Stinger* and *Hawk* missile batteries will protect Athens in an effort to boost defence against terrorism during the upcoming Olympic Games scheduled for August 13-29, local media reported Monday.

The air defence map for the safety of the Olympic

Games is ready, according to the Athens Greek-language newspaper *Apogevmatini*.

The air defence umbrella will be completed with the presence of *Mirage 2000* and *F-16* interception fighter jets as well as the state-of-art single engine turboprop aircraft *T-6A Texan II* and flying radar stations.

Other four Greek cities with Olympic venues will have similar protection. The country will also be protected from nuclear threat, as the competent authorities are considering any likelihood.

Security issue has been the top concern of the international community,

although the Greek Government has earmarked a record 650 million euros for the Olympic security budget, three times as much as that for Sydney Olympic Games, and 50,000 armed personnel, police, Coast Guards and emergency servicemen for the Olympics.

International Olympic Committee President Jacques Rogge has said that "everything humanly possible is being done" for the Olympics, but the security concern has been highlighted following the series of terrorist attacks in Madrid last Thursday, which killed about 200 people and injured another 1400.

MNA/Xinhua



A polar bear chews a special frozen treat of blood and vegetables during the March Break 'Feeding Frenzy' at the Toronto Zoo in Toronto, on 16 March, 2004. The zoo will allow visitors to get a close-up look at zoo residents' gastronomic favourites by featuring an animal a day during this week's March Break 'Feeding Frenzy.' — INTERNET



# ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့

## HK to create best environment for business

HONG KONG, 17 March— Hong Kong Financial Secretary Henry Tang said Monday that the government's principal role is to create best possible environment for business and to facilitate the market's operation and promote its development.

Addressing a Joint Business Community luncheon, Tang said the market will then create employment opportunities. This is the best way forward to sustain Hong Kong's competitiveness and to improve the standard of living.

He believed that the guiding principle in fostering economic development should be "market leads and government facilitates". Tang said the government is committed to being proactive and consistent in its policy making, adding "the government policies should be consistent and predictable, to enable investors to make informed business decisions for the long term".

He said Hong Kong has enjoyed a dramatic rebound from the dark days of the SARS crisis a year ago. His overriding concern while

formulating this budget was to maintain the momentum of the recovery.

To that end, HK's economic initiatives focus on capitalizing on CEPA (the Chinese Mainland/Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement) and leveraging on HK's cooperation with the Chinese Mainland economy.

He said CEPA creates an excellent two-way platform mutually beneficial to business in Hong Kong and the Mainland. This platform generates unlimited "win-win" opportunities for all. But blazing a road to success will actually depend on the efforts of various sectors to seize opportunities and showcase their strengths.

He said to maintain our competitiveness in a globalized economy, Hong Kong must continue to up-

grade the quality of HK's workforce. Hong Kong will continue to invest heavily in education, and focus on attracting talents to Hong Kong from around the world.

He explained that the purpose of issuing government bonds is to finance infrastructure or other investment projects that will bring long-term economic benefits, not to cover operating deficits. — MNA/Xinhua

## Mobile phones top consumers' complaint list in China last year

BEIJING, 17 March — China reported 79,000 complaints on mobile phone quality or after-sale services last year, over 45 per cent higher than the previous year, ranking the first among 60 categories of goods that have provoked complaints.

The State Administration for Industry and Commerce (SAIC) recently disclosed the top 10 most complained of goods or service trades in 2003, including cellphones, food, housing, products used in farming, automobiles, telecommunication service, home decoration, intermediate service, Internet service and computer security software.

Farmers have complained a lot about the poor quality

and adulteration of seeds, pesticides, fertilizers and forage. Online shopping also proved to be a trap to many netizens, according to sources from the official Qianlong web site.

The list, issued just before the annual "consumers' rights day" which falls on Monday this year, is expected to remind consumers of improving vigilance against shoddy goods and cheating

in trades, said the sources.

Officials with the China Consumers Association (CCA), State Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (SAQSIQ) and SAIC have launched a four-day campaign from March 12 to receive and handle complaints at open-air venues.

"I've organized such annual activities for six years, and I am impressed by consumers' growing awareness of rights protection," said an official surnamed Sun from SAQSIQ, seeing more people lining up before the advice centre this year.

It showed that consumers were relying more on legal channels to protect their rights, which would help build a normal market order, Sun said. — MNA/Xinhua

## China, Poland to push forward economic, trade cooperation

BEIJING, 17 March — China is ready to make concerted efforts with Poland to strengthen economic and trade cooperation, China's Vice-Minister of Commerce Zhang Zhigang said here Monday.

At the 11th meeting of Sino-Polish mixed committee on commerce and trade, Zhang said that economic and trade cooperation between China and Poland has seen sound progress in recent years and Poland has become China's second largest trade partner in Central and Eastern Europe.

Statistics indicated trade volume between China and Poland reached 1.98 billion US dollars in 2003, an increase of 43.1 per cent year-on-year, the highest record in history.

Mirosław F Zielinski, Vice-Minister of Economy, Labour and Social Policy of Poland, expressed satisfaction with the bilateral cooperation in economy and trade. He said he believed the economic and trade ties will be further promoted with the close cooperation between governmental departments and enterprises.

The two sides agreed to encourage their enterprises to strengthen exchanges and expand investment, and to hold the 12th meeting of the committee in the Polish capital Warsaw in 2005.



A young Sumatran tiger is seen at the Ragunan Zoo in Jakarta on 16 March, 2004. A leading environmental group on Tuesday warned that the exotic Sumatran tiger was bound for extinction if the government of Indonesia did not crack down on illegal trading in the endangered species. The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) said only 400-500 tigers remained on the island of Sumatra as hunters continue to kill the animal commercially and for sport. — INTERNET

## Britain grapples with its binge-drinking culture

LONDON, 17 March — Britain launched a campaign on Monday against excessive alcohol in a bid to tackle its binge-drinking culture, which some say has turned many town centres into virtual no-go areas at night.

Ministers say alcohol misuse costs around 20 billion pounds a year in associated crime, health and social problems and employee absenteeism.

Last year, a government report found that Britons were the worst binge drinkers in Europe, with excessive drinking accounting for 40 per cent of all drinking occasions by men and 22 per cent by women.

The government plans to issue more exclusion orders to ban trouble-makers from pubs and clubs and make greater use of fines for anti-social behaviour.

The alcoholic drinks industry, which is worth 30 billion pounds a year, was also called upon to do more to reduce underage drinking.

"Too much investment has been made in large, themed town-centre bars aimed at the lucrative youth market," said Mike Benner, of the consumer group the Campaign for Real Ale.

"This approach has fuelled problems with alcohol-related disorder and made many town centres no-go areas for anyone over the age of 25." — MNA/Reuters

## Two dead, two hurt in Kyrgyz rescue chopper crash

BISHKEK, 17 March — A helicopter rescuing snowbound hunters crashed in Kyrgyzstan, killing two people and injuring two, officials in the Central Asian state said on Tuesday.

The Mi-8 helicopter had picked up 15 hunters, including two from the United States and one from Canada, on Monday from a remote camp blocked by snow in the Tien Shan mountains.

Bad weather forced the helicopter, carrying 19 people altogether, to make an

emergency landing near the Chinese border. The two dead were local rescuers, while the Canadian hunter was one of two injured.

Kyrgyzstan offers tours to wealthy foreign hunters seeking rare species.

MNA/Reuters



A three-month old Red bear cub (*Ursus arctos isabellinus*) stands under his mother while taking his first steps at St Petersburg's Zoo, on 16 March, 2004. St Petersburg Zoo, one of the oldest in Europe, will celebrate its 140th anniversary next year. — INTERNET

## SPORTS

## Panathinaikos defender Morris banned by FIFA

JOHANNESBURG, 17 March— Panathinaikos defender Nasief Morris has been provisionally banned from playing football anywhere in the world pending FIFA investigations into an alleged attack on a referee by the South African Under-23 international at an Olympic Games qualifier last month.

"The player was banned provisionally after he attempted to assault the referee after the game," FIFA Press spokesman Andreas Herren told Reuters on Monday.

"The FIFA Disciplinary Committee will pass a decision once we have all the documents later this week," he added.

Morris allegedly attempted to strike out at the official after South African were beaten 2-1 in Zambia in a qualifying match at Chingola on February 21.

Baton-wielding police had to restrain Morris and several of his team-mates as they advanced towards Malawi referee Youngson Chilinda, who they blamed for the Group D loss that virtually ended hopes of a second consecutive appearance in the Olympic football tournament.

FIFA said it was awaiting documents from Morris and the South African Football Association.

MNA/Reuters



Japan's Ryoichi Maeda, left, and Lebanon's Khaled Hamieh battle for the ball during their match in the Asian elimination soccer tournament for Athens Olympics at National Stadium in Tokyo on 16 March, 2004. Japan won the match 2-1.—INTERNET



Argentine soccer player Jairo Castillo (L) of Argentine's Independiente and Santiago Morales (R) of Ecuador's Nacional chase the ball during their match in the first round of the Copa Libertadores in Quito on 16 March, 2004.—INTERNET

## Three players, coach sent off in fiery Brazil derby

RIO DE JANEIRO, 17 March— Three players and a coach were sent off in a fiery but goalless Brazilian derby between Atletico Mineiro and America-Belo Horizonte on Sunday.

Trouble began in the second half of the Belo Horizonte clash when Atletico were awarded a penalty for a handball offence which appeared to take place outside the area.

America players furiously protested and coach Carlos Alberto Silva was sent off in the confusion.

Atletico striker Tucho then saw his spot kick saved by goalkeeper

Lailson but there was more trouble when the linesman waved his flag, apparently indicating that Lailson had moved, and was over-ruled.

MNA/Reuters

## TSV 1860 boss resigns over corruption scandal

BERLIN, 17 March— TSV 1860 Munich president Karl-Heinz Wildmoser, suspected of bribery related to the construction of the new city stadium, resigned on Monday.

The Bundesliga club said in a statement it had accepted an offer by Wildmoser, who was released from prison on bail on Friday, to step aside.

Karl Auer, formerly a member of the club's supervisory board, takes over from Wildmoser, who had chaired the club for 12 years, the statement added.

Wildmoser, his son and two others were arrested last Tuesday on suspicion they took bribes from a company that won the bid to build the Munich stadium to be used as one of the showcase arenas for the 2006 World Cup finals in Germany.

Wildmoser's son, also named Karl-Heinz, remained in custody and was dismissed on Friday as manager of the stadium's holding company.

TSV 1860 and city rivals Bayern Munich, who both play their home games at the Olympic stadium, are to

share the new stadium known as the Allianz Arena and the costs for its construction, estimated at 280 million euros.

Franz Beckenbauer, the Bayern president, said last week the club could finance the works even without the help of TSV 1860, who now face an uncertain future.

The World Cup-winning captain and coach, who is also the chairman of the local organizing committee of the 2006 World Cup, said construction of the new Munich stadium would continue as planned.

The four arrested last week are suspected of receiving a 2.8-million-euro bribe from Austrian construction company Alpine during the bidding process

for the Allianz Arena contract, prosecutors said.

Alpine denied exerting any improper influence and said it was convinced the investigation would show no commissions had been paid to the project managers or their representatives. The local organizing committee of the 2006 World Cup and Bayern have said they had nothing to do with the criminal investigation that was made public last week.

The 66,000-seat stadium being erected in a Munich suburb will replace the Olympic stadium, which was built for the 1972 Summer Games and hosted the final of the 1974 World Cup in West Germany but is now showing signs of wear.

MNA/Reuters

## Beckham says United will bounce back

MADRID, 17 March— Manchester United will bounce back from their Champions League exit and their poor form in the league to finish the season on a high, David Beckham says.

"It's a tough time for United at the moment," the former United midfielder, now at Real Madrid, told a news conference on Monday.

"But I've worked with those players for so many years that I've got no doubt they'll come back from any defeat they're involved in."

United were knocked out of the Champions League last week after a last-minute 3-2 aggregate defeat against Porto and then saw their hopes of challenging Arsenal for the league title all but disappear when they were beaten 4-1 by arch-

rivals Manchester City on Sunday.

"Manchester United as a club and a team have come back from a lot of things especially in the years I was playing there," said Beckham.

"People are bound to say that it is the end of a cycle because of the way some of the games have gone this season, but I'd never bet against Manchester United coming back from anything."

The England captain said that despite criticism of his recent performances from some sections of the Spanish media he was satisfied with his own form and was looking forward to the opportunity to win his first major trophy with Real when they meet Real Zaragoza in the final of the

King's Cup on Wednesday.

"I've felt a lot better in the last couple of games," he said. "I started the season well but I dipped in form a little after a few injuries and a few suspensions, but I'm okay now."

"It would mean a lot to win a first Spanish Cup and the final will be special for me... I am hoping that we can win the game and gain another trophy for Real Madrid."

MNA/Reuters

## Three Zimbabwean footballers die in car crash

HARARE, 17 March— Zimbabwe international midfielder Blessing Makunike was one of three footballers killed in a car accident after returning from a league match in Bulawayo, reports on Monday said.

CAPS United players Makunike, Shingirai Alron and Garry Mashok were killed along with two of the club's fans on Sunday when their car spun out of control, hit a bridge and burst into flames, the official Herald newspaper reported.

They were returning to Harare from Bulawayo after a 2-1 Premier League win over Njube Sundowns on Saturday during which Makunike had scored.—MNA/Reuters



Lindsay Davenport follows through on her forehand return against Meghann Shaughnessy during the fourth round of Pacific Life Open tennis tournament on 16 March, 2004, in Indian Wells, Calif. Davenport won, 6-1, 6-3.—INTERNET

## Anelka apologizes to Santini and French team

PARIS, 17 March— Outcast striker Nicolas Anelka has issued a public apology to France coach Jacques Santini three months before the start of the Euro 2004 finals in Portugal.

The Manchester City striker, not considered by Santini since turning down a late call for European champions France ahead of a friendly against Yugoslavia in November 2002, has been dubbed France's most ineligible player.

However Anelka, who won the last of his 28 caps against Russia in April 2002, has now said he is sorry for his behaviour.

"Those who know me, know that despite our differences I have always had the greatest respect for the French team," the 24-year-old said on his personal web site on Monday.

"This is why I feel it is necessary to make a public apology to Mr. Jacques Santini and to the French team."

"This apology allows me to put this matter behind me and to concentrate fully on football without looking back."

With AJ Auxerre striker Djibril Cisse likely to miss the Euro finals in Portugal after receiving a five-match ban from UEFA, Santini is likely to need two forwards to deputize for regular starters David Trezeguet and Thierry Henry.

He called up Manchester United's Louis Saha and Olympique Lyon's Peguy Luyindula when France beat Belgium 2-0 in Brussels last month with Saha scoring on his international debut.

MNA/Reuters



## MRTV-3


**18-3-2004 (Thursday)  
(Programme Schedule)  
Morning Transmission  
(9:00 - 10:00)**

- 9:00 Signature Tune Greeting
- 9:02 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 9:06 Victories of the State, the People and the Tatmadaw "Education Sector"
- 9:10** **Headline News**
- 9:12 Aungpan Oranges
- 9:15** **National News**
- 9:20 The Beauty of the 1st Defile of The River Ayeyawady
- 9:25 The Unforgettable Bonfire Dance
- 9:30** **National News**
- 9:35 Rakhine Ordination Novitiation & Ear-boring Auspicious Ceremony
- 9:40 Myanmar Modern Song "Sumprabum"
- 9:45** **National News**
- 9:50 Foreign Correspondents Visit Border Areas (Part-I)
- 9:58 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**18-3-2004 (Thursday)  
Regular Programmes for  
Viewers from Abroad  
Evening Transmission  
(15:30 - 17:30)**

- 15:30 Signature Tune Greeting
- 15:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
- 15:36 Victories of the State, the People and the Tatmadaw "Education Sector"
- 15:40** **Headline News**
- 15:42 Aungpan Oranges
- 15:45** **National News**
- 15:50 The Beauty of the 1st Defile of The River Ayeyawady
- 15:55 The Unforgettable Bonfire Dance

- 16:00** **National News**
- 16:05 Rakhine Ordination Novitiation & Ear-boring Auspicious Ceremony
- 16:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Sumprabum"
- 16:15** **National News**
- 16:20 Foreign Correspondents Visit Border Areas (Part-I)
- 16:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 16:30** **National News**
- 16:35 Oboe: Myanmar Musical Instrument
- 16:40 A Village of PaO
- 16:45** **National News**
- 16:50 Myanmar Traditional Flower Arrangements (Decoration with Glaze)
- 16:55 Magnificent Pindaingsan Dance
- 17:00** **National News**
- 17:05 Myanmar Elephants from Myanma Forest Song "Blue Moon"
- 17:15** **National News**
- 17:20 Beauty of the Woman of Myanmar (Pre-War Period)
- 17:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**Evening Transmission  
(19:30 - 23:30)**

- 19:30 Signature Tune Greeting
- 19:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 19:36 The Source of the River Ayeyawady
- 19:40** **Headline News**
- 19:42 Myanmar Traditional Art Silversmith
- 19:45** **National News**
- 19:50 Devoutly Making Donations
- 19:55 Smart Beautiful Cart
- 20:00** **National News**
- 20:05 School for the Blind
- 20:10 Song "Naung Inlay"
- 20:15** **National News**
- 20:20 Let's Enjoy Mann Shwe Sattaw Pagoda Festival
- 20:25 Songs "Pleasant and Greenish Lake"
- 20:30** **National News**
- 20:35 Bagan Archaeological Museum
- 20:40 Music for Your Ears (Than Sann Lyric

- Notes)
- 20:45** **National News**
- 20:50 The Ancient Shwe Inn Thein Pagoda
- 20:55 Vram Naga Harvest Dance
- 20:58 A Prospective Industry in Shan North
- 21:00** **National News**
- 21:05 Kayin Traditional Vegetable Curry (Tarlabaw)
- 21:10 Song "Let my first love know"
- 21:15** **National News**
- 21:20 A Thin Kind of Paper
- 21:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
- 21:35 Victories of the State, the People and the Tatmadaw "Education Sector"
- 21:40** **Headline News**
- 21:42 Aungpan Oranges
- 21:45** **National News**
- 21:50 The Beauty of the 1st Defile of The River Ayeyawady
- 21:55 The Unforgettable Bonfire Dance
- 22:00** **National News**
- 22:05 Rakhine Ordination Novitiation & Ear-boring Auspicious Ceremony
- 22:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Sumprabum"
- 22:15** **National News**
- 22:20 Foreign Correspondents Visit Border Areas (Part-I)
- 22:25 Song "Hakha"
- 22:30** **National News**
- 22:35 Oboe: Myanmar Musical Instrument
- 22:40 A Village of PaO
- 22:45** **National News**
- 22:50 Myanmar Traditional Flower Arrangements (Decoration with Glaze)
- 22:55 Magnificent Pindaingsan Dance
- 23:00** **National News**
- 23:05 Myanmar Elephants from Myanma Forest
- 23:10 Song "Blue Moon"
- 23:15** **National News**
- 23:20 Beauty of the Woman of Myanmar (Pre-War Period)
- 23:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

**18-3-2004 (Thursday) &  
19-3-2004 (Friday)  
Evening & Morning  
Transmission  
(23:30 - 1:30)**

- 23:30 Signature Tune Greeting
- 23:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"
- 23:36 Victories of the State, the People and the Tatmadaw "Education Sector"
- 23:40** **Headline News**
- 23:42 Aungpan Oranges
- 23:45** **National News**
- 23:50 The Beauty of the 1st Defile of The River Ayeyawady
- 23:55 The Unforgettable Bonfire Dance
- 24:00** **National News**
- 00:05 Rakhine Ordination Novitiation & Ear-boring Auspicious Ceremony
- 00:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Sumprabum"
- 00:15** **National News**
- 00:20 Foreign Correspondents Visit Border Areas (Part-I)
- 00:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 00:30** **National News**
- 00:35 Oboe: Myanmar Musical Instrument
- 00:40 A Village of PaO
- 00:45** **National News**
- 00:50 Myanmar Traditional Flower Arrangements (Decoration with Glaze)
- 00:55 Magnificent Pindaingsan Dance
- 01:00** **National News**
- 01:05 Myanmar Elephants from Myanma Forest
- 01:10 Song "Blue Moon"
- 01:15** **National News**
- 01:20 Beauty of the Woman of Myanmar (Pre-War Period)
- 01:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

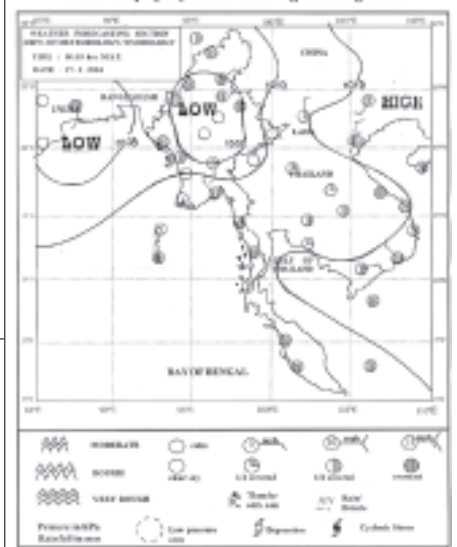
**19-3-2004 (Friday)  
Morning Transmission  
(03:30-07:30)**

- 03:30 Signature Tune Greeting

- 03:32 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Mingalabar"
- 03:36 The Source of the River Ayeyawady
- 03:40** **Headline News**
- 03:42 Myanmar Traditional Art Silversmith
- 03:45** **National News**
- 03:50 Devoutly Making Donations
- 03:55 Smart Beautiful Cart
- 04:00** **National News**
- 04:05 School for the Blind
- 04:10 Song "Naung Inlay"
- 04:15** **National News**
- 04:20 Let's Enjoy Mann Shwe Sattaw Pagoda Festival
- 04:25 Songs "Pleasant and Greenish Lake"
- 04:30** **National News**
- 04:35 Bagan Archaeological Museum
- 04:40 Music for Your Ears (Than Sann Lyric Notes)
- 04:45** **National News**
- 04:50 The Ancient Shwe Inn Thein Pagoda
- 04:55 Vram Naga Harvest Dance
- 04:58 A Prospective Industry in Shan North
- 05:00** **National News**
- 05:05 Kayin Traditional Vegetable Curry (Tarlabaw)
- 05:10 Song "Let my first love know"
- 05:15** **National News**
- 05:20 A Thin Kind of Paper
- 05:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Myanma Panorama & Myanma Sentiment"

- 05:35 Victories of the State, the People and the Tatmadaw "Education Sector"
- 05:40** **National News**
- 05:42 Aungpan Oranges
- 05:45** **National News**
- 05:50 The Beauty of the 1st Defile of The River Ayeyawady
- 05:55 The Unforgettable Bonfire Dance
- 06:00** **National News**
- 06:05 Rakhine Ordination Novitiation & Ear-boring Auspicious Ceremony
- 06:10 Myanmar Modern Song "Sumprabum"
- 06:15** **National News**
- 06:20 Foreign Correspondents Visit Border Areas (Part-I)
- 06:25 Song "Hakha"
- 06:30** **National News**
- 06:35 Oboe: Myanmar Musical Instrument
- 06:40 A Village of PaO
- 06:45** **National News**
- 06:50 Myanmar Traditional Flower Arrangements (Decoration with Glaze)
- 06:55 Magnificent Pindaingsan Dance
- 07:00** **National News**
- 07:05 Myanmar Elephants from Myanma Forest
- 07:10 Song "Blue Moon"
- 07:15** **National News**
- 07:20 Beauty of the Woman of Myanmar (Pre-War Period)
- 07:25 Song of Myanmar Beauty & Scenic Sights "Come and See Myanmar"

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas


**WEATHER**
**Wednesday, 17 March, 2004**

**Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST:** During the past 24 hours, light rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Kachin, northern Shan States, Mandalay Division and weather have been generally fair in the remaining areas. Day temperatures were (3°C) to (4°C) above normal in Shan State, upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Ayeyawady Divisions, (6°C) above normal in Taninthayi Division, (3°C) to (4°C) below normal in Rakhine State, Bago Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant day temperature were (41°C) each in Pymnana, Minbu and Magway.

Maximum temperature on 16-3-2004 was 37.8°C (100°F). Minimum temperature on 17-3-2004 was 19.5°C (67°F). Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 17-3-2004 was 77%. Total sun shine hours on 16-3-2004 was (8.1) hours approx. Rainfall on 17-3-2004 was nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2004 was 3 mm (0.12 inch) at Yangon Airport and nil at Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 12 mph from Southerly at (17:30) hours MST on 16-3-2004.

**Bay inference:** Weather is cloudy in the South Bay and partly cloudy elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

**Forecast valid until evening of 18-3-2004:** Possibility of isolated rain in Kachin State, Taninthayi Division and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is (40%). **State of the sea:** Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters. **Outlook for subsequent two days:** Continuation of increase of day temperatures are likely in the whole country. **Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 18-3-2004:** Partly cloudy. **Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring area for 18-3-2004:** Partly cloudy.


**Thursday, March 18**  
View today:

- 7:00 am**
1. Recitation of Parittas by Missionary Sayadaw U Ottamathara
- 7:25 am**
2. To be healthy exercise
- 7:30 am**
3. Morning news
- 7:40 am**
4. Nice and sweet song
- 7:55 am**
5. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ
- 8:00 am**
6. Dance variety
- 8:10 am**
7. Dance of national races
- 8:20 am**
8. ရွှေဝိတ်တေး
- 8:30 am**
9. International news
- 8:45 am**
10. Let's Go

- 4:00 pm**
1. Martial song (ဣန္ဒြေ) နှစ်ခြောက်တပ်မတော်ခေ့၊ တပ်မတော်ကာကွယ်ရေးဦးစီးချုပ် ဗိုလ်ချုပ်မှူးကြီးသန်းရွှေ၏ မိန့်ခွန်းမှ တောက်ကုတ်ချက်
- 4:15 pm**
2. Songs to uphold National Spirit
- 4:30 pm**
3. English For Everyday Use
- 4:45 pm**
4. တပ်မတော်ခေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုသော်လည်းကောင်း၊ ချီးမြှင့် ဆုတောင်းများ (၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်)
- 5:00 pm**
5. အခေါ်သင်တန်းသို့ဝင်ရောက်ရေး ရုပ်မြင်သံကြားသင်ခန်းစာ ပထမနံပါတ် (သိပ္ပံအထူးပြုသင်တန်း) (စာတည်း)
- 5:15 pm**
6. Cute little dancers
- 5:30 pm**
7. "သတိတော်ချက် တစ်သက်အတွက်" ကော်မရှင်းမူဝင်၊ ကြည့်လိုက်နာ၊ နန်းကလေးတို့၊ သင်္ကြန်ဆောင် ခါနီတီးတီး-စာရေးစာသင်
- 5:45 pm**
8. Musical programme
- 6:00 pm**
9. မြန်မာစာ မြန်မာစာတေး
- 6:15 pm**
10. နိုင်ငံအဝန်း သတင်းအချက်အလက် မိမိလမ်းစဉ်စာရင်း

- 6:30 pm**
11. Evening news
- 7:00 pm**
12. Weather report
- 7:05 pm**
13. "နိုင်ငံခြားစာတော်လမ်းစဉ်" "နိဂုံးမယ်" (ဆပိုင်-ဂ)
- 7:35 pm**
14. (ဣန္ဒြေ) နှစ်ခြောက်တပ်မတော်ခေ့၊ ဂုဏ်ပြုသော်လည်းကောင်း၊ ချီးမြှင့် ဆုတောင်းများ (၂၀၀၃ ခုနှစ်)
- 7:45 pm**
15. (ဣန္ဒြေ) နှစ်ခြောက်တပ်မတော်ခေ့၊ တပ်မတော်ကာကွယ်ရေးဦးစီးချုပ် ဗိုလ်ချုပ်မှူးကြီးသန်းရွှေ၏ မိန့်ခွန်းမှ တောက်ကုတ်ချက်
- "ပြည်သူ့အတွက် တပ်မတော်"
- "ပြည်သူ့အတွက် လုပ်ငန်းသမိုင်းမှန်မှာ တိုဝရ်တာ" (လယ်ယာစီးပွားရေးအား မြှင့်တင်ရန်)
- "ပြည်သူ့အတွက် ဦးစီးဌာနတော် တပ်မတော်အချိန်လက်ထက်"
- ရွှေတောင်ပင် (ရဲဘော်ခင်မောင်လှ)
- နိဂုံးမယ် (ဆပိုင်-ဂ)
- 8:00 pm**
16. News
17. International news
18. Weather report
19. စာအုပ်အတွင်းမှာသိရသောများ (ဗိုလ်တရားတော်ဆောင်စီစဉ် တင်သက်သေပြ)
20. The next day's programme


**Thursday, March 18**  
Tune in today:

- 8.30 am** Brief news
- 8.35 am** Music
- 8.40 am** Perspectives
- 8.45 am** Music
- 8.50 am** National news/ Slogan
- 9.00 am** Music
- 9.05 am** International news
- 9.10 am** Music
- 1.30 pm** News/Slogan
- 1.40 pm** Lunch time music
- Especially for you (Kylie Minogue and Janson Donovan)
- Up where we belong (Joe Cocker and Jennifer Warners)
- 9.00 pm** Radio play in honour of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day
- 9.10 pm** Article
- 9.30 pm** Favourite songs chosen by music lovers
- Baby what about you (Crysstal Gayle)
- If we hold on together (Diana Ross)
- Top of the world (Carpenters)
- 9.45 pm** News/Slogan
- 10.00 pm** PEL



*Lt-Gen Kyaw Win addresses third coordination meeting of Leading Committee for Observance of Armed Forces Day.—MNA*

## Leading Committee for Observance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day meets

YANGON, 17 March —The Leading Committee for Observance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day held its third coordination meeting at Yangon Command this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win.

Also present were Chairman of Management Committee for Observance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe, Minister for Home Affairs Col Tin Hlaing, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Maj-Gen Sein Htwa, Minister for Labour U Tin Winn, Chief of Staff (Navy) Captain Nyan Tun, Vice-Chiefs of Armed

Forces Training Maj-Gen Win Myint and Brig-Gen Nyan Tun, Vice-Quartermaster-General Brig-Gen Khin Maung Tun, Deputy Ministers for Information U Thein Sein and Brig-Gen Aung Thein, Deputy Minister for Culture Brig-Gen Soe Win Maung, Deputy Minister for Labour Brig-Gen Win Sein, Deputy Minister for Education Col Aung Myo Min, senior military officers of leading committee, management committee, work committee and subcommittees, the deputy director-general of Myanmar Police Force, departmental heads and officials.

Chairman of the Leading Committee for Observance of the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day member of the State Peace and Development Council Chief of Armed Forces Training Lt-Gen Kyaw Win delivered a speech. He said he found the drill of parade columns satisfactory.

He also found that the parade companies kept military discipline well. He spoke on arrangements for the parade were good due to the efforts of various committees.

Secretary of the leading committee Deputy Adjutant-General Col Khin Soe reported on the resolutions passed by the second coordination meeting.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Myint Swe and officials of the various committees reported on work done.

Officials of MPF, Fire Services Department and Myanmar Red Cross Society reported on participation of members of MPF, Fire Brigade and Red Cross Brigade at the parade. Those present took part in the discussions.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win fulfilled the requirements and the meeting ended in the evening with the concluding remark by Lt-Gen Kyaw Win.—MNA

## Chinese fugitive handed over in Muse

YANGON, 17 March—Myanmar Police Force arrested murderer and looter Wam Wein Paung, 41, who was wanted in China, son of U Wam Shi Chun of Toebinyoe Village, Pauksan region, Chinli, Chenlint District, Yunnan Province. The ceremony to hand over the fugitive was held in Muse, Shan State (North), at 8.40 am on 10 March 2004.

Present were Muse Special Anti-Drug Squad Supervising Officer Police Maj Win Naing, Captain Kyaw Zeya of the local intelligence unit, Chairman of Township Peace and Development Council Capt Aung Lwin, Head of

Muse District Immigration and National Registration Department U Aye Than and officials, Chenlint District Police Station Head Police Col Ding Zhi Shen, Police Lt-Col Su Hong Min and officials. As Shweli Police Station asked Muse District Police Force to arrest Chinese fugitive Wam Wein Paung, Muse District Police Force and local intelligence unit of Myanmar made concerted efforts for exposing the fugitive. Then, the fugitive was arrested in Manwingyi Village, Bhamo District, Kachin State. Speaking on the occasion, Police Maj Win Naing said success has been

achieved in bilateral fugitives exchange tasks thanks to cooperation of Muse District Police of Myanmar and Keigaung/Shweli police members. Chenlint District Police Station Head Police Col Ding Zhi Shen thanked for Myanmar Police Force for the arrest of the fugitive. He added he will ask MPF to arrest fugitives of their side in the future. And, success was achieved because of information exchange between the two countries. Police Maj Win Naing and Police Col Ding Zhi Shen signed the document on handing over of the fugitive.—MNA

## Nantmaung Creek Bridge in Momeik inaugurated

YANGON, 17 March —Hailing the 59th Anniversary Armed Forces Day, the inauguration of the Nantmaung Creek Bridge in Momeik, Shan State (North), undertaken by the Ministry of Construction took place at the facility on yesterday morning.

It was attended by Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Myint Hlaing, Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun, senior military officers,

officials, members of social organizations and local people.

On the occasion, the minister delivered a speech. In his speech, the minister said that in its pace to march towards the goal of a peaceful, modern and developed democratic nation, the government has been making strenuous efforts in all fields for laying the sound basic foundations.

In the process, the Ministry of Construction is contributing towards the goal by carrying out tasks

for smooth transport.

Number of road miles has now increased to 18,112 in the nation, up from 13,635 in 1988. The government has constructed 168 bridges with 180 feet and above in length.

With the emergence of the facility, local people can travel to other states and divisions in addition to the townships in Shan State (North) via Momeik and Mogok enjoying greater regional development in the sectors of economy, education and health.

In response to the government's genuine goodwill, local people are to make collective during endeavours durability of the facility, he urged.

Next, the commander said that like local people, he takes pride in the emergence of the bridge.

With the opening of new roads and bridges, Shan State (North) has enjoyed fruits of economic improvement along with better transport and further cementing of amicable relations among local people.

In conclusion, the commander called for participation of local people in the tasks for long lasting of the bridge and regional development.

Afterwards, the commander and the minister formally opened the 300-foot-long bridge and walked along it.



*Newly-opened Nantmaung Creek Bridge in Momeik on 16-3-2004.—MNA*